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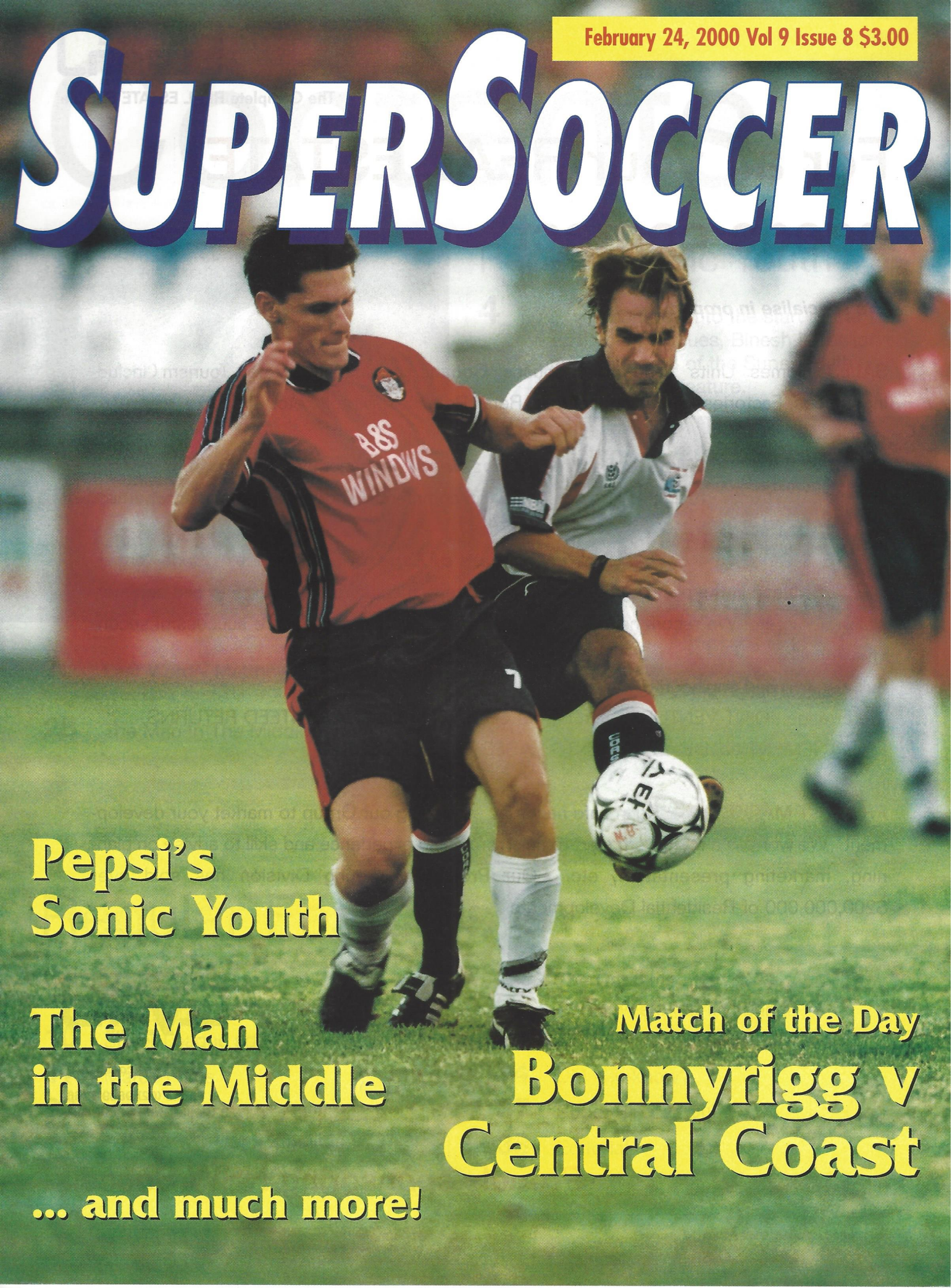
SuperSoccer



Pepsi's Sonic Youth

The Man in the Middle

Match of the Day

Bonnyrigg v Central Coast

... and much more!

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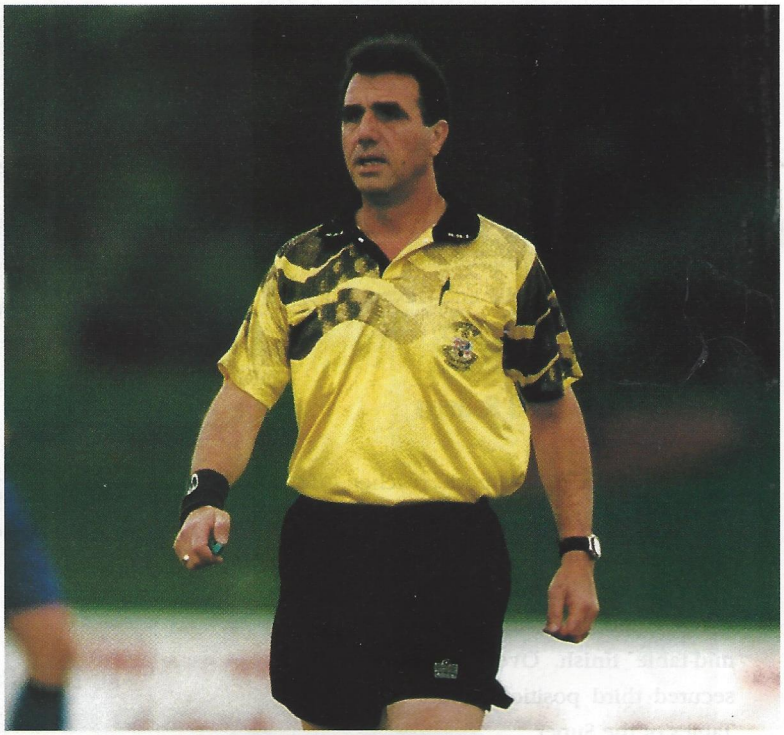

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Front cover: Javier Mancino (Bonnyirgg) and Adam Peatey (Central Coast) jostle for the ball.

PEPSI's SONIC Y

We continue with Week 3 in Binesh Mudaliar's preview of the Pepsi Super Youth League and Super Cadet League teams by looking at Newcastle Breakers, Penrith Panthers, Canterbury Marrickville Berries, Wollongong Wolves and Sutherland.

NEWCASTLE BREAKERS

Home Ground: Breakers Stadium, Newcastle

Products of the Youth System: Mitchell Johnson, Joel Grenell, and Peter Wood (Australian Institute of Sport)

The 1999 Season

The 13s and 16s both reached the Preliminary Final before losses to Wollongong and Blacktown respectively. The 14s and 15s were troubled by inconsistency and each fared no better than a mid-table finish. Overall, the Breakers secured third position in the Combined Tables of the Super

Youth League. The 11s and 12s make their Super Cadet League debut in 2000.

In 2000

The Club's goal for the Super Youth League Season is to achieve a top two overall finish, with at least one of the sides reaching a Grand Final.

In addition to immediate ambitions above, the Breakers will continue to develop and mature their players so as to ready them for senior football.

Players to Watch

16s: Mitchell O'Brien, Tom Libbesson, and Joshua Castillo

15s: Jobe Wheelhouse, Mason Palmieri, and Ben Parmenter

14s: Nigel Boogaard, Angus Nicol, and Luke Walker

PENRITH PANTHERS

Home Ground: Kingswood Park, Kingswood

Products of the Youth System: Allan Picken, Luke Martin, Jon Hawkins, and Daniel Lownds (Current Super League first-grade and u21 players for Penrith)

The 1999 Season

In 1999, the Panthers played their football in Youth Division One and Division Two of the Cadet League. The 14s did the Club proud by finishing runners-up in the Grand Final to Ryde City at Melita Stadium. The 13s fared poorly while the 16s and 15s finished mid-table. The 11s lost 2-0 to Illawarra Lions at Popondetta Park in the Preliminary Final while the 12s recorded 12 wins for the season to finish 5th on the table.

2000 Pre-Season Highlights

The channeling of past players such as Mark Higgins, Bill Kuzmanovski, Chris Minol, and Tony Raffmuffen, into junior coaching positions at Penrith, has seen the Panthers earn a reputation as a Club with a "family-type atmosphere". This atmosphere in addition to the Super Youth and Super Cadet League status in 2000 has resulted in a very high retainment rate of 1999 players. Furthermore, there is a peer support system amongst coaches at Kingswood Park, which has served to solidify the team spirit amongst coaches and players.

The 11s, 12s, and 13s journeyed down the Hume Highway to Canberra in mid-February for a weekend training camp at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). Panthers first-grade coach Stan Ackerley and AIS Assistant Coach Milo Vanovic headed the camp. The 16s, 15s, and 14s have been working hard at various locations including river runs in the scenic Weir Reserve.

Players to Watch

11s: Midfielders Ryan Emerton and Tim Raffmuffen

12s: Midfielder Michael Infanti and striker Michael Steele, the latter also being a Catholic Schools of NSW representative

13s: Striker Sam Wellham (also a State runner) and sweeper Kane Piper

14s: Utility Troy Muggleton (also an Australia u14 Indoor player) and mid-

PEPSI®

PEPSI

fielder Troy Sullivan

15s: Defender Josh Lownds and midfielder Peter Somogyi

16s: Sweeper Brett Eldridge and utility Phil Hartshorn

CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE BERRIES

Home Ground: Marrickville Oval, Marrickville

Products of the Youth System: Johnny Warren (Ex-Socceroo captain), Graham Arnold (Head Coach at Northern Spirit), Zlatko Arambasic (Sydney Olympic), Steve Tolios (Sydney United), Brad Maloney and Vlado Zoric (Marconi).

The 1999 Season

The late inclusion of the Berries in the 1999 Super Youth and Super Cadet Leagues resulted in a poor season for the Club. With the exception of the 11s, who were Minor Premiers, all grades performed below par to finish near the foot of their respective tables.

2000 Pre-Season Highlights

Through advertising in local papers, radio contacts, and word-of-mouth, the Berries attracted 300-400 triallists for the right to wear the Blue & White in 2000. Prior to Christmas 1999, all squads were finalised and players were presented with jerseys, tracksuits, and bags at the Season Launch on the 19th of January at Marana Hall in Hurstville.

Training is now in full swing and trial games have been organised against Central Coast Lakers, Hajduk Wanderers, Eastern Suburbs, Sydney Olympic, and Rockdale

City.

Players to Watch

11s: Defender James Rayner and midfielder Daniel Ford
12s: Midfielders Callum Sinclair (won the Club Award for 1999 Cadet Player of the Year) and Vince Suttor and striker John Brown
13s: Midfielders Matthew Murray and Con Stanos
14s: Strikers Jim Chao and Steven Abreu
15s: Strikers Dejan Josipovic and Jason Pitton
16s: Strikers Brad Milner and Riley McNee

WOLLONGONG WOLVES

Home Ground: Brandon Park, Wollongong

Products of the Youth System: Wollongong Wolves first-graders Paul Reid and Chad Bishop (Bishop is on-loan to Macarthur Rams), Shane Lockhart (NSWIS and Australia u17)

The 1999 Season

The 13s were runners-up to Blacktown City in both the league and playoff series. The 14s and 15s finished mid-table while the 16s missed out on a finals appearance by just two points.

Super Cadet League fans will see the Wolves for the first time in 2000.

2000 Pre-Season Highlights

Advertisements in the local media and the work of Wolves Development Officer, Matt Horsley, saw approximately 300 eager players gather for Wollongong's trial sessions. As it turned out, the retention rate of players was very high, which is in keeping with the Club's policy of developing players through the six-year system.

The 16s were in camp at Valentine Sports Park from 28-30 January while the 13s enjoyed a one night bonding camp at the Leisure Resort in Fairy Meadow during their build-up phase. Practice matches have been organised against the likes of Sutherland, Macarthur, Manly, and Marconi.

Players to Watch

NSW State player Dean Kerr will suit-up for the 15s this season while the 16s will feature the talented quartet of Glenn Fisher (GK), Aaron Rey (midfield), and strikers Nathan Miranda and Michael De Gori.

SUTHERLAND

Home Ground: Bates Drive, Kareela

Products of the Youth System: Joel Griffiths (Parramatta Power), Paul Henderson and Adam Griffiths (Northern Spirit), Paul Harries (Carlisle United (England)), Paul Kohler (Sydney Olympic)

The 1999 Season

Statistically, the Super Youth League teams had average seasons, finishing either in the middle or lower half of the table. Sutherland will field an 11s and 12s team in the Super Cadet League in 2000 for the first time.

2000 Pre-Season Highlights

Unlike previous seasons, Sutherland has managed a extremely high retention rate of players in 2000, indicating several real reasons for staying with the Club:

1. The quality of coaches is outstanding including Peter Terry (a former Super League Coach of the Year), John O'Shea (former Socceroo), and Sutherland legend Paul Smith.

2. The fast tracking of players into the Super League sides. For example, Andrew Smith played with the u16s in 1999 and has already played two games of senior Super League football in 2000.

3. The sending of earmarked players to train with overseas Clubs. In November 1999, Leigh Magri and Andrew Smith travelled to Middlesbrough FC while Matthew Said and Tim Mitchell spent time with Nottingham Forest.

This season, Sutherland will once again look at the "big picture" and aim to develop players for the Super League, National Soccer League and international football.

In pre-season training, all the grades have utilised the sand hills of Wanda and Cronulla and the waters off Cronulla Beach for their heavy exercise. Hit-outs have also been scheduled against Wollongong, Parramatta, and St George.

PEPSI®

LAST WORD

with Fairfield's Matthew Borg

When was the last time you....

Scored a goal?

29 January 2000!

Prayed?

1992

Went on holiday?

I travelled through Europe last year.

Fell about laughing?

Every day.

Had a good night out?

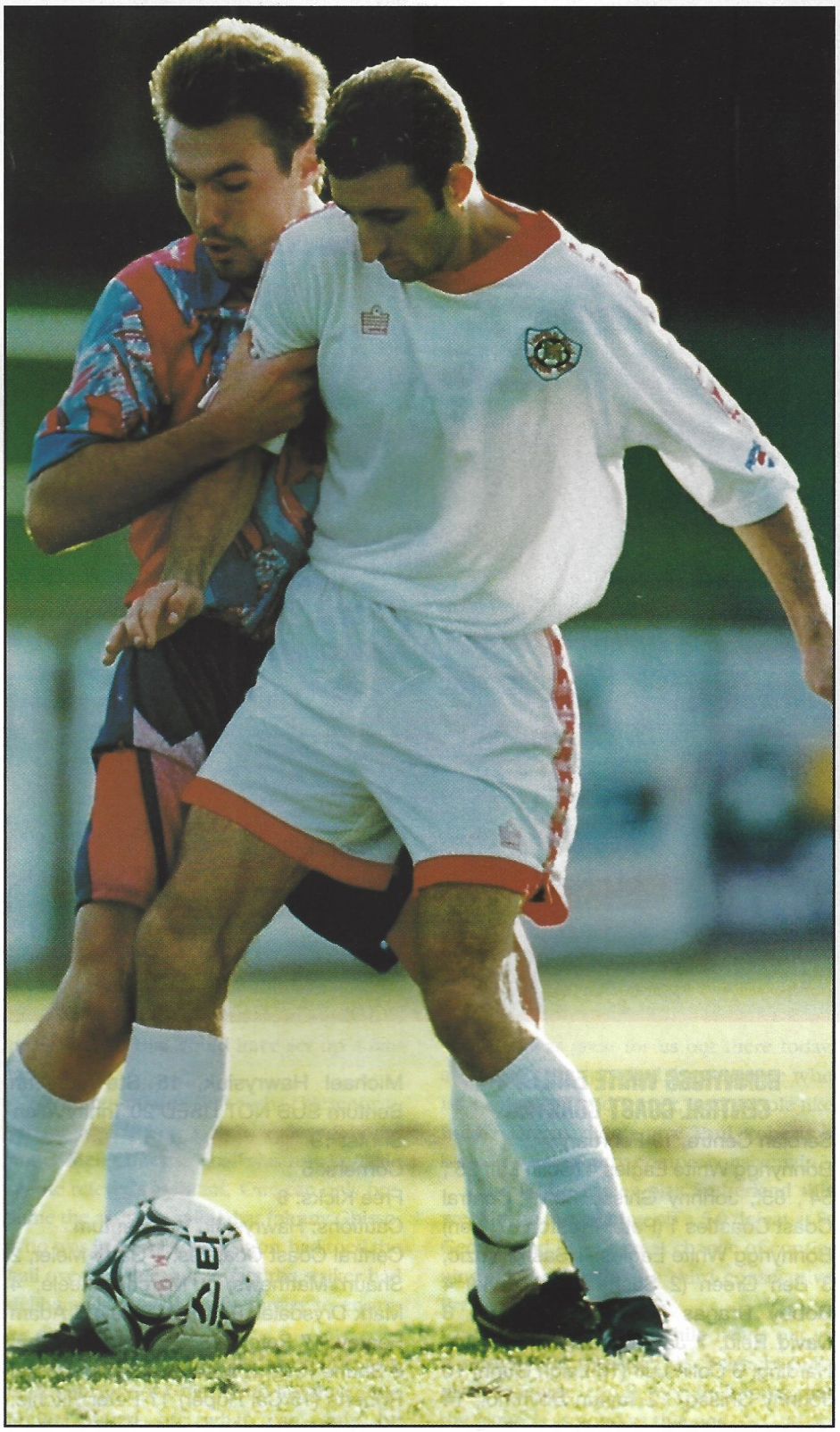
Last week.

Were mistaken for someone else?

People always get me and Tores Andre-Flo confused!

Swapped shirts with an opponent?

1993 NSW school boys.



MATCH OF THE DAY

by Mark Fowler

BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES V CENTRAL COAST COASTIES

Serbian Centre, 19 February
Bonnyrigg White Eagles 4 (Colin Luff 25', 54', 85', Johnny Ghisso 39') - Central Coast Coasties 1 (Peter Preston 67' pen)
Bonnyrigg White Eagles: 1 Sasha Bozic, 3 Ben Green (2 Sasha Utjesenovic) 4 Bobby Dragas (5 Milan Crnokrak) 6 David Reid, 7 Javier Mancino, 8 David Harding, 9 Colin Luff (16 Leigh Gunn) 10 Johnny Ghisso, 12 Tayfun Devrimol, 14 Michael Hawrysiuk, 15 Stewart Van Bentum SUB NOT USED 20 Trinity Allen
Shots: 19
Corners: 5
Free Kicks: 8
Cautions: Hawrysiuk, Van Bentum
Central Coast Coasties: 1 Garry Meier, 2 Shaun Matthews, 3 Marcus Steele, 4 Mark Drysdale (18 Mitch Daley) 5 Adam Peatey (17 Peter Leary) 7 Peter Preston, 8 Shane Knight, 9 Nathan Byrn, 10 Paul Roberts (15 Cal Roper) 11 Peter Ritchie, 19 Stuart Sontag SUB NOT USED 20 Matthew Collits
Shots: 9
Corners: 7
Free kicks: 16
Cautions: Sontag
Red card: Ritchie
Referee: Greg Leverton
Super Soccer rating - 4 stars

The Central Coast Coasties were the latest team to be swept away by an awesome display of attacking football by the Bonnyrigg White Eagles.

After scoring six against the Parramatta Eagles and four against Blacktown in their last two games the White Eagles were surely due to draw a blank, but unfortunately for the Coasties it wasn't against them. Striker Colin Luff, returning to the club after injury and a short spell with Sydney United netted a hat-rick, but hopefully he won't complain if I overlook him for man of the match honours.

My award would go to fellow striker, Johnny Ghisso, who not only scored the other Bonnyrigg goal - and with a fine finish at that - but also set up one of Luff's as well as generally causing havoc. Ghisso's performance was best illustrated with Luff's hat-trick goal. The strike made it 4-1 and there were only five minutes left, but Ghisso, in a crowded penalty area, superbly back-heeled the ball into the path of Luff, who finished clinically. It was a wonderful goal.

Bonnyrigg started the better of the two teams, a Bobby Dragas header going wide from an early corner, then Garry Meier saving well from Ghisso on 10 minutes after the striker had worked the ball onto his favoured left foot. Ten minutes later Dave Harding smacked a shot over after being set up by Luff. Harding was another to turn in a fine performance, covering every blade of grass in a great team effort.

A minute later though the Coasties broke, but a cross shot clipped the crossbar with Bozic beaten, and then two minutes later could so easily have taken the lead. After just hitting the crossbar the Coasties attacked again and Nathan Byrn

was denied from about 6 yards out by a wonderful save. Bozic flung himself across to get a piece of the ball, which bounced onto the upright and away, leaving the Coasties wondering what might have been.

Instead of going one, or possibly two goals up, the Coasties again found themselves under pressure. Meier again denied Ghisso with a fine save, but on 25 minutes came Luff's first. It was all so simple too, a huge clearance by Bozic had Coasties defenders Shaun Matthews and Mark Drysdale in trouble, and Luff neatly clipped the ball past the advancing Meier.

A few minutes later Javier Mancino volleyed wildly over, then David Reid was unfortunate to miss from the edge of the penalty area when the ball slightly screwed of the side of his boot. Luff then fired over, but six minutes before the break Ghisso made it 2-0.

On the left-hand side of the penalty area Ghisso went around Meier and from an acute angle stroked the ball into the net. It was a blow you could never see the Coasties recovering from.

That was confirmed after 54 minutes, when again Luff was on the receiving end of some great skill by a teammate. This time it was Mancino, who cut the ball across goal from the right hand side, and Luff merely had to side-foot home from about 4 yards out.

The shots continued for Bonnyrigg, Ghisso being set up by Reid, Hawrysiuk firing over, and then Meier making a superb double save. The Coasties were handing a faint glimmer of hope after 67 minutes, with Bobby Dragas punished for the merest of pushes on his Coasties opponent in the penalty area, and Peter Preston strode up to convert the penalty with some ease.

The Coasties suddenly started to play their best football of the game, and managed to create some good opportunities on the White Eagles goal without being able to net a second that could have set up a fantastic finish.

With ten minutes left Sasha Utjesenovic, on for a sick Ben Green, volleyed home under Meier, but the 'goal' was ruled offside by the referee's assistant. One can only presume the assistant ruled that Johnny Ghisso, who was in an offside position, had toed the ball over the line, but in fact the striker had deliberately moved his foot away to ensure he didn't touch it in.

With five minutes left came Luff's hattrick courtesy of Ghisso, and in injury time Meier pulled off what can only be described as a sensational save, somehow flinging himself upwards to stop a shot by David Reid. It was special.

The Coasties were unlucky to meet a team in such hot form, although they will realise exactly what they have achieved so far already this season. They are much improved from last season, and despite the scoreline sweeper Shaun Matthews looked composed on the ball. Byrn and Paul Roberts will continue to score goals, although they will have to do without the services of Peter Ritchie, who was red-carded late in the second half for dissent, for a game. They should still take on the Macarthur Rams at Pluim Park in good heart this week though, in what will be a very tough game to predict.

Coach Dale Eggleton believed the difference between the two sides was Bonnyrigg taking their chances so well, although he thought that if Byrn's effort had gone in it could have been a different game. He thought his team had been caught out by the directness of Bonnyrigg's play, and that not many teams would come away from the Serbian Centre with anything.

"They (Bonnyrigg) are the best team we have played so far," said Eggleton, "but it's a very even competition and its up to us to stay up there with a win over Macarthur at home."

Bonnyrigg Coach John Turner was naturally delighted with his team, mentioning the goals they had scored against three of Super League's strongest teams, Parramatta Eagles, Blacktown and the Central Coast. He made particular mention of the 19-year-old Tayfun Devrimol, who looks to be a special talent, and Green, who was physically sick a number of times during the game.

"Luff was great for us out there today, as was Ghisso - not bad for someone who isn't a striker!" said Turner, "and people like Bobby Dragas didn't give Paul Roberts a kick. It was a pretty comprehensive win."

The White Eagles play Sutherland this week, who are coming off a 5-0 defeat at St George, and have a great chance of continuing on their path to a third consecutive Premiership.

Super Soccer meanwhile heads out to Nineveh Field to watch the Fairfield Bulls play St George, and is secretly hoping that the game is as good as this one.

ROUND 8 SUPER LEAGUE

Andrews Road Field - Saturday 26 February - Kick Off 7.00pm

Penrith PANTHERS

1. Luke Martin
3. Steve Sweeney
4. Kaan Davies
5. Ben Wright
6. Dave Fitzharris
7. Bob Casserly
8. Chris Ackerley
9. Danny Hinton
10. Martin Driene
11. Allan Picken
15. Anthony Driene
18. Jon Grima
20. Vladan Radic
21. Sandro Borsato
22. Ivan Necevski

Brett Buckpitt
Simon Casserly
Paul Cleary
Brad Collier
Greg Collins
Garth Tehliwec
Alan Worobiej
Robert Wozniczka

Team Colours

Black with
Red/Yellow/Green trim

Coach: Stan Ackerley

Eastern Suburbs WANDERERS

1. Costa Anastasiadis
2. David Segreto
3. Mathew Dihm
4. Craig Sharpley
5. John Pillemer
6. Matt Shepherd
7. Yavuz Ekinci
8. Rudy Jerkovic
9. Jimmy Aschner
10. Steve McComb
11. Peter Pullicino
12. Aaron Holst
13. Talat Kice
14. Menios Mitakidis
15. Murat Kuru
16. Malcolm Nicholls
17. Ben Deighan
18. David Blinoff
22. Leo Premutico

Team Colours

Red Shirts-Blue sides-
white collar
Blue Shorts
Blue Socks-white/red stripes

Coach: John Calleja

UNDER 21'S — 5.00pm

PENRITH

1. LUKE MARTIN
22. IVAN NECEVSKI

STEVE ANDREWS
KARIM BALLOOT
GREG COLLINS
LEIGH CROSS
STEVE DIMOVSKI
JON HAWKINS
NATHAN KING
DANIEL LOWNDS
GLENN MACPHERSON
MILO MILOVANOVIC
PAUL PETROVSKI
ADAM PIPER
MICK RENNY
NICK RYAN
JASON SCIBERRAS
GARTH TEHLIWEC
MARK TOLAND
ALAN WOROBIEJ
ROBERT WOZNICZKA
COACHS: DAVID CLOSE AND
TONY STAMBOULE

EASTERN SUBURBS

1. ANDREW BARTON
2. DANIEL BEVERLEY
3. BRENDIN LO
4. JOHN SKUFRIS
5. DANNY HURWITZ
6. ANTHONY MAXWELL
7. ABEY AYOUB
8. NICK KRNCEVIC
9. SOTIRI ALEXOPOULOS
10. TERRY ATSAS
11. ADEL HELAL
13. ADAM FANNING
14. JOHN VELTHUYS

COACH: GRAHAM SCHOFIELD

UNDER 18'S — 3.00pm

PENRITH

23. OWEN ROGERS
2. GUS ORCAJO
3. MARK MIJAS
4. DANIEL WELLS
5. PEARCE MCGUINESS
6. LUKE BOYD
7. SIMON EMMANUEL
8. DARRIN ROBERTSON
9. MATTHEW SUMEGHY
10. JOHNNY CHAVEZ
11. ULAS AVSAR
12. ASHLEY DE'ABEL
14. WASSIM BALLOOT
15. ERCAN TOPAL
17. DENIS ILIC
18. CHAD LEWIS
19. SERKAN EREL
24. LUKE PANECCASSIO
COACH: JOSE DJALO

EASTERN SUBURBS

1. STEVE PETAN
2. DAVID DECHIARA
3. NICK BOTZOLIS
4. ARTHUR MANDAS
5. DANIEL PAREDES
6. LEE HANRATTY
7. ANTHONY CURRENTI
8. AARON VLACHOS
9. FERNANDO ALVARADO
10. DENNY DUTRA
11. MISKO POKRAJAC
12. CHRIS BELLO
13. DAVID RIZZO
14. MACARIO DESOUZA
15. PAULO OLIVEIRA
16. RANI RIMMER

COACH: BILLY HENSHAW

Penrith Panthers

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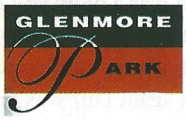

Home Ground: Andrews Road Field, Andrews Road, Penrith

SUPER LEAGUE ROUND 8

Seymour Shaw Park - Sunday 27 February – Kickoff 7.00 pm

Sutherland SHARKS

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

Team Colours

Blue White & Black Shirt
Black Shorts
Black Socks with
white band
Coach: John Lavin

1. Dennes Olla
2. Adam Daley
3. David Tedesco
4. Clint Harrod
5. Eduardo Giraldo
6. Hakon Carlsson
7. Con Paradisis
8. Cord Tolson
9. Ali Salim
10. Matt Merralls
11. Kris Karanasos
12. Craig Hobbs
13. Jimmy Corbo
14. Malcolm Bideau
15. Phil Wurth
16. Dejan Ristovski
17. Aaron Harris

Bonnyrigg W/EAGLES

1. Sasha Bozic
2. Sasha Utjesenovic
3. Ben Green
4. Bobby Dragas
5. Milan Crnokrak
6. David Reid
7. Javier Mancino
8. David Harding
9. Leigh Gunn
10. Johnny Ghisso
11. Paul Candelori
12. Tayfun Devrimol
14. Michael Hawrysiuk
15. Stewart Van Bentum
16. James Warburton
17. Konrad Leski
18. Rajko Mandic
19. Aydin Cetinay
20. Trinity Allen

Team Colours

White Shirts-Blue trim
White Shorts-Blue trim
White Socks
Coach: John Turner

UNDER 21'S — 5.00pm

SUTHERLAND
1. AMIR AJANOVIC
2. SCOTT ALLISON
3. MARC BARIC
4. DAVID CAVACO
5. STEVE KAROVSKI
6. LEIGH MAGRI
7. MARK NOSWORTHY
8. ORIEL PEREZ
9. DEAN SIMPSON
10. ANDREW SMITH
11. TROY SPINK
12. NATHAN TRAJCEVSKI
13. ANDREW VRAHAS
COACH: STEWART PORTER

BONNYRIGG
NEHAD MOSHE
2. DAMIR ABDURAHMANOVIC
4. JAVIER GELOS
5. STEVAN ANTONIC
6. LUKE SALKELD
7. JOHN DI FRANCESCO
8. JOVICA NOVAKOVIC
9. ALEX VESELINOVIC
10. MATTHEW PEARMAN
11. FABIAN VEGAS
12. DANIEL MORIN
13. BRIAN SMITH
14. LEON CHARALAMBOUS
15. DANIEL KUZIOW
COACH: DANNY BLANUSA

UNDER 18'S — 3.00pm

SUTHERLAND
1. JONATHAN MCCALLUM
2. JOE ARCIDIACONO
3. NATHAN BARRECA
4. CHRIS CVETKOVSKI
5. GEORGE GALOUZIS
6. TIMOTHY JESUS
7. BEN KASZNIK
8. RAY KELLY
9. JOEL KOTAMANIDIS
10. JAYSON PETROU
11. SAM RAFIQUE
12. JOSE SANCHEZ
13. MATHEW TOOGOOD
14. ANDREW WALES
15. NANA WIAFE
COACH: ALEX BAIRD

BONNYRIGG
1. ALI AKBAL
2. MARKO KLEUT
3. MANUEL KALLIANIS
4. MIROSLAV SEKULJICA
5. ANDREW GADDES
6. ARIF HUSEYIN
7. TROY MCCOLL
8. WALTER CHIACCHIO
9. DARRELL FERNANDES
10. MICHAEL WEST
11. SASHA MILOSAVLJEVIC
12. DANIEL BORG
13. DON CARENZA
14. SEAN MCARTHY
15. STEPHEN NELIGAN
16. HENRY SCHAPERS
17. MILAN TAMBURIC
18. UROS VUKELIC
19. CARLOS CUTIERREZ
20. LUIS ESCALANTE
COACH: VIC ELLUL

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

SUTHERLAND SHARKS

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Sutherland Shire Junior Soccer Football Association Inc,
Australian Plastic Profiles, Sydney Airport,
Man Lin Wah Chinese Restaurant, Bezzinas

ROUND 8 SUPER LEAGUE

Pluim Park - Saturday 26 February – Kick Off 7.00pm

Central Coast COASTIES

1. Gary Meier
2. Shaun Matthews
3. Marcus Steele
4. Mark Drysdale
5. Adam Peatey
7. Peter Preston
8. Shane Knight
9. Nathan Byrn
10. Paul Roberts
11. Peter Ritchie
12. Wes Bennett
13. Brent Demery
14. Aaron Binskin
16. Ryan Marshall
17. Brett Jaeger
18. Mitchell Daley
19. Stuart Sontag
22. Darren Moore

Team Colours

White Shirts-Blue/Red trim
Navy Blue Shorts-White/Red trim
Navy Blue Socks-White/Red tops
Coach: Dale Eggleton

Macarthur RAMS

1. Peter Munsie
2. Graeme Goodfellow
3. Ben Willard
4. Gary Attard
5. Martin Bourke
6. Matthew O'Shea
7. Ian McDonald
8. Paul Bentvelzen
9. Eric Williams
10. Adrian Macerola
11. Danial Cummins
12. Gary Newall
13. Colin McAusland
14. Richard Lloyd
15. Chad Bishop
16. Tony Judge
17. Shane Risby
18. Wes Horne
19. Dale Clayton

Team Colours

White/Maroon & Grey Shirts
White & Maroon/Grey Shorts
Maroon & Maroon/Grey Socks
Coach: Brian Dene

UNDER 21'S — 5.00pm

COAST
1. MATT COLLITS
2. TRAVIS MAUDE
3. DAVID CHANNELS
4. DAN MORRIS
5. NICK PURER
6. MICK COATES
7. STEPHEN BECH
8. DANE HOKIN
9. DANIEL SURRIDGE
10. CAL ROPER
11. RYAN MCKENDRICK
12. SHAUN BREWER
COACH: ANDREW OLLIER

MACARTHUR
1. CHAD TAYLOR
2. CHRIS HENRICKSON
3. PETER OSBORNE
4. BRAD WITHER
5. BRAD ELLIS
6. LIAM ACKLAND
7. ERIS DUFFICY
8. RYAN KEARNS
9. RYAN JONES
10. NATHAN LITTLE
11. KAAN UYSEN
20. ADAM MACNAUGHTON

COACH: SCOTT HOUGHTON

UNDER 18'S — 3.00pm

COAST
1. SCOTT HORVATT
2. SCOTT JONES
3. NICK MORRIS
4. MICHAEL COOK
5. JASON DONNELLY
6. JASON MCMINIMEE
7. MARC FALZON
8. SHANE MCPARLAND
9. PETER FALLA
10. NICK WELLS
11. JAMES PERRY
12. JEFF HALL
13. STEPHEN RAYNER
14. DAVID BREWER
15. PETER LEARY
16. JUSTIN SELKIRK
17. NATHAN CARMODY
20. DANIEL KENNEDY
COACH: JOHN MCLAFFERTY

MACARTHUR
1. DAVID SILLINCE
2. ADEL EL JAMEL
3. WADE SCHERINI
4. BRETT GILLELAND
5. BRENDAN KEARNS
6. EMANUEL MELIENDREZ
7. MARCELO GUERRERO
8. PAUL RANKIN
9. JULIAN LOPEZ
10. LEIGH MURTZ
11. VASILIUS PANOUTSOPOULOS
12. ANTHONY CASTLE
13. NATHAN WEATE
14. RHYS GILLELAND
20. BEN DUGGAN

COACH: STEVE MARSH

CENTRAL COAST COASTIES

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Home Ground: Pluim Park, Tuggerah Street, Lisarow

SUPER LEAGUE ROUND 8

Gabbie Stadium - Saturday 26 February - Kick Off 7.00pm

Blacktown City DEMONS

1. Fernando Greco
2. Paul Yates
3. Steve Riches
4. Damien Foxe
5. Chris Bradley
6. Damon Langan
7. Paul Dee
8. Peter Sermani
9. Mark Hagger
10. Jason Bennett
11. Damien Brown
14. Brendan Salameh
15. Paul Marosevic
16. Sean Lane
17. Matthew Lowe
18. Paul Richardson
19. Naoki Imaya
20. Nathan Reid

Team Colours

Red & White/Black Shirts
Black Shorts
Black Socks
Coach: Brian Brown

Canterbury M/Ville BERRIES

1. Frank Mikuletic
2. Michael Raeburn
3. Adrian Molachino
4. Simon Fedele
5. Matthew Percy
6. Zoran Ilic
7. Jose Mendes
8. Scott Wells
9. Steve Christoforidis
10. Jim Nikas
11. Angelo Markopoulos
12. Terry Sidiratos
13. Aheleas Kotsopoulos
14. Joe Ferraro
15. Rudi Nasser
16. Adrian Vizzari
17. Robert Jerkovic
18. Vince Condoluci
19. Patrick Galloway
20. Jose Bello Amigo
22. Michael Tsigolis
23. Jason Oldridge

Team Colours

Blue Shirts
Blue Shorts
Blue Socks
Coach: John Xipolitas

UNDER 21'S 5.00pm

BLACKTOWN

1. NATHAN REID
2. LEE MAYBERRY
3. RUSSELL HALL
4. JON PRZYDACZ
5. CLINT MAYBERRY
6. MAT BROWN
7. ROLAND WEBER
8. NATHAN WYNNE
9. ADAM KWASNIK
10. FILLIPE BACCAN
12. ROD HUTCHINSON

COACH: TOM MCMORROW

CANTERBURY

1. PETER SPATHIS
2. PETER TSIGOLIS
3. DARIO TORRISI
4. MIGUEL VIEIRA
5. JOHN THEODOROPOULOS
6. ANTHONY FALAS
7. PATRICK GALLOWAY
8. JOEL DONNELLY
9. CON STAVERIS
10. BILL TSIOUMAS
11. JOHN TESTONE
12. ANDREAS SOUFERLIS
13. ALEX ALEXANDER
14. ANGELO PAPADOPOULOS
15. JOHN VENETOULIS

COACH: ARTHUR KAZAS

UNDER 18'S 3.00pm

BLACKTOWN

1. JAMES WILKINSON
2. TOM CHARLTON
3. MAT ENGELE
4. BRETT MASON
5. RYAN NOBLE
6. MICHAEL CHAMPION
7. MAT O'DONOHUE
8. MAT WILLS
9. NAJ HADDID
10. MARCUS FROST
11. FERUCCIO HANZA
12. TOM QUILTY
14. MITCH FRASER
15. IAN ALBERT-THENET
16. ROGER GALAYINI
17. OMAR MAKKI
18. STEVE BAVEAS
19. RYAN HALL

COACH: RANDELL EASTHORPE

CANTERBURY

1. TRISTIAN TULLOCK
2. PAUL REPETI
3. DENIS DUNDOVIC
4. SCOTT THOMPSON
5. DANIEL VELJANOSKI
6. ANTONY MERSIADES
7. JONATHAN VAVASIS
8. MATT CULLA
9. DAVID GIRALDO
10. ZADEN JOSE-SANDAISSI
11. MARKO GALANTE
12. EMIL FADEL
13. CHRIS KLAFAS
14. AIDAN MCBARRON
15. ARTHUR KAVGAS
16. CHRIS CARMONA
17. NICK KUZMANOSKI
18. KLIME VELJANOSKI
19. PHILLIP ZABAKS
20. STUART VELLA

COACH: IAN RAEBURN

BLACKTOWN CITY DEMONS

Wish to thank the following Sponsors for their support:

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Home Ground: Gabbie Stadium, Quinn Avenue, Seven Hills

ROUND 8 SUPER LEAGUE

Melita Stadium - Sunday 27 February - Kick Off 7.00pm

Parramatta EAGLES

1. Jason Holmes
2. Scott Xuereb
3. Geoff Dwyer
4. Mark Reveley
5. Malcolm Meilak
6. Tom Bazdaric
7. Anthony Panzarino
8. Alex Trpkoski
9. Adam Anderson
10. Anthony Mittiga
11. Nikolce Joseski
12. George Wakim
13. Glen Meilak
14. Stephen Chips
15. Ben Delicata
20. Michael Xuereb

Team Colours

White and Red Shirts
Red Shorts
White and Red Socks
Coach: Roberto Viera

LEICHHARDT TIGERS

1. Shaun Woods
2. Fabio Macolino
3. Blago Milicevic
4. Andrew Dowling
5. Michael Galluzzo
6. Vuko Tomasevic
7. Chris Lansdown
8. James Stubbs-Mills
10. Joe Bruni
11. Steve Karavatakis
12. Andrew Nicol
14. Zoki Adioski
15. Greg Fuchs
16. Anthony Tesoro
17. Chris Cowley
18. Yane Talcevski
19. Andrew Nolan
20. Mark Catelli
21. Andrew Falas
22. Joshua Bulgin

Team Colours

White Shirts
White Shorts
White Socks
All with Maroon/Sky Blue trim
Coach: Les DeCelis

* Please note that the allocated numbers of the Under-21 and Under-18 teams will vary.

UNDER 21'S — 5.00pm

PARRAMATTA*
1. DANIEL FARIAS
2. ADRIAN MEILAK
3. DANIEL BORG
4. DANIEL CELESTINO
5. BEN SHORT
6. BRADLEY MOORE
7. ALEX MUSCAT
8. DAVID MANSUETO
9. BOBBY MARANGON
10. DANIEL MITTIGA
11. DAMIAN HARDIMAN
12. DANIEL DI LORETO
13. EDUARDO CASTRO
14. DAVID OZACARDI
15. JEFFREY FONSECA
20. MICHAEL XUEREB
COACH: TAM FINLAYSON

LEICHHARDT
1. JAMES MEYER
2. MOHAMMED MUSLEMANI
3. TOM CORTE
4. DAVID PROVAN
5. JOHN PAUL BOUTROS
6. RICKY WARD
7. ADRIAN D'ONOFRIO
8. ANGUS GOODRICK
9. PAUL LOMBARDO
10. BRETT MURRAY
11. DEAN SPRESIAN
COACH: BILLY MCCOLL

UNDER 18'S — 3.00pm

PARRAMATTA*
1. PAUL BAYLEY
2. SIMON VALE
3. GARY VAN DIGGELE
4. BENJAMIN MAILER
5. GREGG JACKSON
6. ADAM MANSUETO
7. TROY STONE
8. SAMUEL NOTT
9. ALIOUNE NDIAYE
10. MICHAEL DEBONO
11. ANTUN BRCIC
12. DANIEL TOSOLINI
13. NIKOLA NACOVSKI
14. MATTHEW OSMAN
15. SIMON ZAHRA
16. TUMAY BEHA
17. NATHAN SPINKS
20. STEPHEN SALIBA
COACH: SASHA BOSKOVSKI

LEICHHARDT
1. CAMERON MOORE
2. PAUL NICOLAOU
3. LIAM CAMERON
4. MOUSSA CHAHINE
5. DANIEL CUNNINGHAM
6. JOSEPH CIANO
7. ROBBIE CAMPAGNA
8. MICHAEL O'RILEY
9. ROBERT TRIMBOLI
10. ANTHONY MAZZA
11. FRANCESCO ZARRELLA
12. DAVID HUTCHINSON
13. JOSH DE'KELLY
14. PETER TALCEVSKI
15. MARIO RACITI
16. RADE UNIPAN
17. JONATHAN FARIAS
30. MARK CARBONE
COACH: JOHN ROMEO

PARRAMATTA EAGLES

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AIR MALTA BANK OF VALLETTA

SUPER LEAGUE ROUND 8

Nineveh Field - Sunday 27 February – Kick Off 7.00pm

Fairfield BULLS

1. Dragon Pupovac
2. Chris Giometti
3. Phil Treharn
4. Damien Luksic
5. Michael Vrankovic
6. Salvatore Larocca
7. George Zabetakis
8. Paul Bourke
9. Mark Hoenselaars
10. Matthew Borg
11. Darren Iocca
14. Roman Nikolic
15. Michael Cavallaro
16. Milan Savic
20. Sean Cahill
22. Fernando Pelligrino
23. Devrim Huseyin

Team Colours

White shirts/red trim
White shorts/red trim
White socks
Coach: Joe Watson

St George SAINTS

20. Stacy Alogdellis
2. George Maglis
3. Simon Verrender
4. Nick Bolianitis
5. Michael Kladis
6. Mark Brennan
7. Max Sevares
8. Cameron Watson
9. Angelo Petratos
10. Jim Bakis
11. Elias Augerinos
12. Matthew Galea
13. Billy Petrovski
14. Stefan Janic
15. Archilleas Markopoulos
16. Manuel Papageorgiou
17. Alex Leris
1. Les Bihari

Team Colours

Red with White Shirts
White Shorts/Red trim
Red Socks
Coach: John Sentas

UNDER 21'S — 5.00pm

FAIRFIELD

1. SEAN CAHILL
2. CHARLIE AKLE
3. GELVIN SHUKUR
4. GARRY MYLES
5. NATHAN CUNEEN
6. JOSHUA VLAHOS
7. JOE BARILLA
8. DANIEL BUCKLEY
9. ZAIA KHNANISHO
10. DAVID D'URSO
11. EDVIN SEJRANOVIC
12. ROCKY SARKIS
13. JOHN MENZAGOPIAN
15. PETER CARBONE
16. NENOS BOBO
17. ALLAN WAWI

COACH: DANNY ABBOUD

ST GEORGE

1. JAMES ADAMO
2. RYAN TOOMBS
4. JOHNNY FOTIADIS
5. BEN PROCTOR
6. DAISUKE NAKAYAMA
7. JAMIE DANASKOS
9. ANTHONY ADAMO
10. LUKE CAIRNEY
12. DAVID HOFIERKA
14. SHANE MERCER
15. DAVID O'HAN
16. BRAD CAMPBELL
17. PETER ANDRIOTIS

COACH: JOHN DAVIES

UNDER 18'S — 3.00pm

FAIRFIELD

1. STEVEN MINOVSKI
2. DALE FILLINGHAM
3. CRAIG SPEECHLEY
4. PAUL MCDERMOTT
5. HAYDEN SCHNEIDER
6. PETER CARBONE
7. PHILLIP BADOLATO
8. SARGON GERWAGIS
9. DIEGO GOURGUES
10. STEPHEN GALLARDO
11. ADAM SAMUEL
12. TIM DURIC
13. MATHEW SPINKS
14. STAVROS ARZAPITIAN
15. CHRIS ZERBINIS
16. CHRIS MICALLIF
17. EDDIE EYOU
20. NICK BUCCIARELLI

COACH: SAM ISAAC

ST GEORGE

1. JOSEPH MEOLI
2. MOHSEN DIA
3. ROSS DIBIASI
4. MOHAMMED EL-REDA
5. ONUR GUYSU
6. GLEN HENRY
7. TOMCE JANUSEVSKI
8. MATTHEW JONES
9. DONNY KULEVSKI
10. TAREK MADANI
11. NEIL MELVILLE
12. GEORGE NASTEVSKI
13. NICK NIKOLOVSKI
14. ANDREW SPATA
15. ANTONIO SARRIS
16. ROBERT TASSONE
17. CARLOS VELENZUELA
18. CAINE CALLAGHAN

COACH: NEIL RHODES

Fairfield BULLS

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Home Ground: Nineveh Club Soccer Field, 673 Smithfield Road, Edensor Park

ROUND 8 SUPER LEAGUE

Jensen Park - Saturday 26 February – Kick Off 6.00pm

BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS

Team Colours

Red Shirts-Black trim
Black Shorts-Red trim
Red Socks-Black trim
Coach: Ljube Jancev

1. Zlatko Joseski
2. Tony Joseski
3. Tony Trpceski
4. Richard Luksic
5. Mark Abi-Arrage
6. Kire Grozdanovski
7. Nabil Kodmani
8. George Issa
9. Goce Trposki
10. Damien Zane
11. Robert Issa
12. Michael Lemazina
13. Anthony Kanaan
14. Sasho Talevski
15. Kire Josevski
16. Bryan Raeburn
17. Hossam Nouh
18. George Haniotis
19. Zia Younan
20. Cem Akili

Manly Warringah Dolphins

1. Dean McCreath
2. Andre Glucina
3. Sean Robertson
4. Kelvin Foster
5. Martin Ranaldi
6. Thomaz Mikulski
7. David Kuhn
8. Keith Long
9. Mark Beldham
10. Scott McGuire
12. Marten Jagers
13. Robert Smithies
14. Christian Wheeler
15. Steve Hickman
16. Matt Godwin
17. Timothy Wilson

Team Colours

Colour Red

Coach: Tony Pezzano

UNDER 21'S 4.00pm

BANKSTOWN	DOLPHINS
1. CEM AKILI	1. PETER DOUGHENEY
2. PANDE NIKOLOVSKI	2. BARRY-JON VAN WYK
3. BEKIM AHMEDI	3. ANTHONY SURACE
4. ALEN STAJCIC	4. ADAM WILD
5. DAVID PINTOS	5. PAUL NERO
6. RODNEY LOCK	6. TIGRAN HAROUTIOUNIAN
7. ALEX ARDONE	7. CHRIS STUBBS-MILLS
8. NICK MASTLINKOVSKI	8. GAVIN YATES
9. ANDREW STRAGYLOS	9. PAUL HAYDEN
10. LARRY TRAJKOVSKI	10. JUSTIN JONES
11. JOHNNY PARCIO	11. ANTHONY MARTIN
12. MARK LANCASTER	12. VINCE BAGNATO
RG: ADAM KURTZ	13. OLIVER GOMM
13. JOHNNY KAPARIZOV	14. ANDREW KING
16. SEFER YILIDIZ	15. ALEXANDER SCRIVEN
17. PAUL PARRAS	16. ANTHONY TALLADIRA
20. TOM BRISKOVSKI	17. STEPHEN VISKI
COACH: ALEN STAJCIC	21. ADAM FROST
	22. ROBERT WATSON
	COACH: ERIC VAN WYK

UNDER 18'S 27/2/00 6

BANKSTOWN	DOLPHINS
1. ADRIAN MARCELINO	1. MICHAEL STEELL
2. ZORAN CVETKOVSKI	2. MARK SZEWCZYK
3. STEVEN ROLEVSKI	3. JOHN DRIVAS
4. BILL SOTIROPOULOS	4. CRAIG GOSLING
5. TOM MARKOVSKI	5. SHAHAB KARGARIAN
6. BEN SHRIMPTON	6. BOGDSAV DURDEVIC
7. STEVEN STEVANOVSKI	7. JAMES SHARKEY
8. CHRIS FALLICO	8. BEN POGUE
9. HASSAN BULLI	9. WILSON TERUZZI
10. MATTHEW POLLARD	10. GARTH MORING
11. CHRIS NESTOROVSKI	11. DANIAL NERO
12. JEVAT ASANOSKI	12. IVAN TOMAS
14. JEHAD KASSEM	13. KIAVASH SEIAR
15. ELIAS OCHOA	14. ASHLEY SHORT
16. CARLOS ARANGO	15. STIVEN KOSTANIC
17. NICK GORGIOSKI	16. CHRISTOPHER WATSON
18. ALBERT CICEK	17. LEE EVERSON
19. JOSEPH MALVASO	18. ABRAHAM AROYAN
20. JOHN ANGELKOVSKI	19. MILOS MALATINEC
	COACH: GRAEME COHEN

1. Luke Martin

BANKSTOWN CITY LIONS

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Home Ground : Jensen Park, Clapham Road, Sefton

Match Facts...Match Fact

NSW Super League Round 7

It was a weekend for visitors with five of the seven games going to the away side.

The most significant was Bankstown's win against the previously undefeated Leichhardt. Goce Trposki and Nabil Codmani were the men on target for Bankstown.

Blacktown led at Lynwood Park from a Jason Bennett goal, but Chad Bishop got Macarthur level inside a minute. Two late strikes by Steve Riches and Mark Hagger sealed the win for the Demons whose away form seems to be its best.

Penrith struggled to contain Fairfield at Andrews Road, leading from a 14th minute strike by Sandro Borsato, but despite the Bulls having George Zabetakis sent off they came home strongly to win 2-1 with Marc Hoenselaars and Mathew Borg on target for Joe Watson's side.

Manly Warringah were beaten by two late goals for Eastern Suburbs in a 2-1loss at Cromer Park. It was Easts' second win on the trot and lifts them away from the bottom for the first time this season.

To complete the away team victors, the out of form Parramatta bounced back to record a vital 4-0 win over another home team in Canterbury Marrickville.

With injury victims Jose Mendes, Simon Fedele, Michael Raeburn and captain Matthew Percy all absent, the young Berries could not contain a rampant Parramatta.

Adam Anderson opened the scoring in the 22nd and further goals from big defender Mark Reveley in the 64th, Alex Trposki in the 65th and Nick Joseski in the 85th sealed the Canterbury side's fate. It was their second successive loss at home and both came inside the last eight days.

Home team victors were Bonnyrigg against another previously unbeaten side, Central Coast. Colin Luff celebrated his return to Super League with a hat trick while Johnny Ghisso scored one himself, and also turned provider, while Coasties' captain Peter Preston put away a penalty for the visitors - the final score, 4-1 to Bonnyrigg.

St George used a howling wind at their backs to good effect as they stormed to an early two goal lead in an eventual 5-0 rampage in their derby win over Sutherland. Mark Brennan struck first and Achilles Markopoulos soon rattled in another. Second half goals from Saints' Jim Bakis and Elias Augerinos extended the margin and another late goal wrapped it up.

Macarthur Rams v Blacktown City Demons

Macarthur 1 (Bishop 59') - Blacktown 3 (Bennett 57', Riches 88', Hagger 90')

Saturday 19 February, Lynwood Park

Attendance: 500

Macarthur: Munsie, Goodfellow, Willard, Bourke, O'Shea, McDonald (McAusland 73'), Williams, Cummins, Newall, Bishop, Judge

Shots: 13

Corners: 4

Fouls: 14

Cautions: Bourke

Blacktown: Greco, Yates, Riches, Foxe, Bradley, Langan (Hagger 73'), Sermani, Bennett, Brown, Lowe, Imaya

Shots: 14

Corners: 3

Fouls: 13

Cautions: Foxe

Super Soccer Rating: 5

Summary: The Demons travelled to the picture postcard Lynwood Park determined to make up for their disappointing performance against Bonnyrigg in Round 6, and played accordingly in the first 20 minutes of the game. The tide turned during the latter part of the first half as Macarthur's forwards came into their own but Fernando Greco was performing heroics in the Blacktown goal to keep the score locked at 0-0 at the break.

Early in the second half, Jason Bennett found himself unmarked and placed a shot past Peter Munsie to give Blacktown a 1-0 lead. The Rams hit back straight away when arguably Super League's most electrifying player, Chad Bishop, beat 3-4 players and chipped Greco from 30 yards out.

Man-of-the-Match Greco then pulled off a series of absolutely breathtaking saves to keep the score tied at 1-1, and late goals to Steve Riches and super sub Mark Hagger ensured full points for Brian Brown's men.

Match Facts...Match Fact

Leichhardt Tigers v Bankstown City

Saturday 19 February, Lambert Park

Leichhardt Tigers 1 (J Bruni '77) - Bankstown City 2 (G Trposki '46, T Joseski '57)

Referee: Alex Spirovski

Bankstown City: Zlatko Joseski, Tony Joseski, Richard Luksic, Mark Abi-Arrage, Kire Grozdanovski (Anthony Kanaan 88'), Nabil Kodmani, George Issa, Goce Trposki (Robert Issa '83), Damien Zane, Michael Lemazina (Zia Younan '95), Bryan Raeburn

Shots: 6

Corners: 3

Fouls Committed: 9

Cautions: -

Leichhardt: Shaun Woods, Blago Milicevic (Fabio Macolino '40), Andrew Dowling, Michael Galluzzo, James Stubbs-Mills, Joe Bruni, Steve Karavatakis, Andrew Nicol, Zoki Adioski (Chris Lansdown '59), Chris Cowley, Yane Talcevski

Shots: 5

Corners: 4

Fouls committed: 17

Cautions: Bruni ('78), Cowley ('93)

Send off: Galluzzo ('93)

Super Soccer rating: 4

Summary: Lambert Park was the venue for this entertaining clash which saw League leaders Leichhardt go down to Bankstown City, 2-1.

The first chance of the match came in the 35th minute, when Nabil Kodmani made a run down the right, drawing out Leichhardt's Shaun Woods from between the posts and then cutting the ball back for George Issa to finish what was a simple conversion. Fortunately for Leichhardt a quick thinking Andrew Dowling then slid in behind Issa, blocking his shot and forcing the ball away from danger.

With the scores locked at 0-0 at the break, one could sense that goals were just around the corner, with both sides showing much promise in front of goal. In the 46th minute, the first of the match came after Goce Trpovski did brilliantly to bring down a swinging cross from the left, slotting the ball past Woods for a one goal advantage. It would have been easy for Bankstown to shut up shop there and then, but to their credit they pushed on and in the 57th minute were rewarded for their efforts. A neat Luksic pass on the left made sure Issa had time to get a nice cross in, which was hesitantly cleared by the Leichhardt defence, only to fall to Tony Joseski, who launched a right foot volley into the top right hand corner of the net, leaving some shocked looks on the Lambert Park faithful.

In the final 20 minutes the game opened up dramatically and Leichhardt had their fair share of chances to put themselves in the match thanks to some enterprising build up play from the likes of Talcevski, Stubbs-Mills, Galluzzo, Adioski and substitute Chris Lansdown, but they let a couple of good opportunities fall by the way-side.

However, they did get one past the Bankstown defence in the 77th minute, who had only conceded six goals this season - quite a formidable record. Joe Bruni got on the end of an off-line Stubbs-Mills drive and converted well, but it was all elementary in the end with the Lions eventual winners in what was a free flowing match full of entertaining football.

Penrith Panthers v Fairfield Bulls

Saturday 19 February, Andrews Road Field

Penrith Panthers, 1 (Borsato, 14') - Fairfield, 2 (Hoenselaars, 44', Borg, 60m)

Attendance: 880

Penrith Panthers: Necevski, Worobiej, Buckpitt, Tehliwec (Davies), Wright, Collins (Balloot), Casserly, Borsato (Wozniczka), Hinton, A Driene, Picken SUB not used: Martin

Shots: 8

Corners: 8

Free Kicks: 13

Cautions: Worobiej, Casserly, Wright, Hinto, Tehliwec

Fairfield Bulls: Cahill, Giometti, Treharn, Luksic, Larocca, Zabetakis, Bourke, Hosenselaars, Borg, Iocca (Cavallaro), Husyin SUBS not used: Minouska, Pellegrino, Omac

Shots: 11

Corners: 5

Free Kicks: 24

Cautions: Giometti, Zabetakis (2 yellows)

Super Soccer rating: 4

Summary: A very entertaining contest which, unfortunately, was littered with indecision from the match official. In the end, Fairfield were able to convert one more chance than Penrith, to take out the contest. Twin strikers for the Bulls, Mark Hoenselaars and Matthew Borg, stood out for the visitors. For Penrith Panthers, Ivan Necevski, Bob Casserly and Sandro Borsato played well.

Despite the loss, Panthers coach, Stan Ackerley, was pleased with his team's effort.

St George v Sutherland

19 February, St George Stadium

St. George 5 (Brennan 11' Bakis 14' 63' 80' pen Augerinos 71') - Sutherland 0

Referee : Nick Asargiotis

St George : Stacey Alogdellis, Mark Brennan, Max Sevares, Cameron Watson, Evangelos Petratos (Simon Verrender 70'), Jim

s...Match Facts...

What the ratings mean:

(	Should have stayed home
((	Average game
(((	A good contest
((((	We're glad we went
(((((	A real cracker!

Bakis, Elias Augerinos (Michael Kladis 73'), Mathew Galea, Bill Petrovski, Stefan Janic (George Maglis 60'), Achilleas Markopoulos.

Shots : 12

Corners : 3

Fouls : 11

Cautions : Galea 24' Augerinos 65'

Sutherland : Dennis Olla, Adam Daley (Dejan Ristovski 71'), David Tedesco, Clint Harrod (Kris Karanosis 63'), Eduardo Giraldo (Mathew Merralls 70'), Con Paradisis, Ali Salim, Craig Hobbs, Levi Stephen, Grant McDonald, Mathew Richardson.

Shots : 10

Corners : 5

Fouls : 12

Cautions : Paradisis 68' Ristovski 84' Karanosis 88'

Sent Off : McDonald 79' (deliberate handball)

Super Soccer Rating : 3

St. George racked up an impressive five goals at home to a disappointing Sutherland in the local 'southern derby'. Driven by superb ballwork from skipper Mark Brennan and a strong breeze in the first half, the Saints put on two goals in three minutes to go to the break two up. The first goal was a long distance cracker from Mark Brennan struck from just outside the penalty box, the second another scorcher from Archie Markopoulos which was partially blocked by Dennis Olla in the Sutherland goal and completed by Jim Bakis.

With a strong breeze at their backs in the second half Sutherland failed to capitalise and conceded a soft goal to Bakis when goalkeeper Olla was caught in possession by the livewire Bakis. From here they were never in the hunt as St George racked up another two goals, the first a tap in from Augerinos at the far post following a free kick, the second via a Jim Bakis penalty after Sutherland defender Grant McDonald was sent off for a handball on his own line. While Sutherland's performance was ordinary in part it was the dominance of the midfield by Brennan, Augerinos and Markopoulos that helped the side home.

Canterbury Marrickville v Parramatta Eagles

20 February, Henson Park

Canterbury - Marrickville, 0 - Parramatta Eagles, 4 (A Anderson '20, N Joseski '45, M Reveley '63, T Bazdaric '89)

Canterbury-Marrickville: Frank Mikuletic, Adrian Molochino, Zoran Ilic (Joe Ferraro '45), Scott Wells, Steve Christoforidis, Jim Nikas, Aheleas Kostopoulos, Adrian Vizzari (Micheal Tsigolis '75), Peter Jouannou (Rudi Nasser '68), Patrick Galloway

Shots: 6

Corners: 9

Fouls committed: 18

Cautions: Ilic ('35), Kostopoulos ('36)

Parramatta: Jason Holmes (Michael Xureb '89), Scott Xureb (Ben Delicata '68), Malcolm Meilak, Mark Reveley, Tom Bazdaric, Alex Trposki, Adam Anderson, Anthony Mittiga, Nikolce Joseski (Anthony Panzarino '77), Stephen Chips

Shots: 11

Corners: 3

Fouls committed: 18

Cautions: Trposki ('35), Xureb ('49)

Super Soccer rating: 3

Summary: A dominant display at Henson Park by the Parramatta Eagles saw them put four past a weakened Camterbury-Marrickville outfit last Sunday night.

Canterbury's team sheet was missing the familiar names of Mendes, Raeburn, Fedele and Percy - all out with injury troubles. Notably two of those four - Jose Mendes and Micheal Raeburn - had been rock solid at the back throughout the season for the Berries and with them out of action it was always going to take a super effort claiming the points against a Parramatta side desperate for a result.

Things started evenly with the first chance of the match falling in the 22nd to Adam Anderson after he combined well up front with his striking partner Nikolce Joseski in finishing a relatively simple opportunity on the counter-attack. In the 24th minute Cantebury had a chance to equalise, when a pin point Zoran Ilic pass found his man at the back post. The ball was then headed into Steve Christoforidis path - Christoforidis was denied by a fine save and the ball was hastily cleared by the Eagles defence.

From here on in things didn't get any better for the Berries, conceding another moments before half time after the ball was laid back into Nicolce Joseski's path thanks to an Anderson run. Joseski did well to finish, placing the ball low and to the right of Mikuletic in the Canterbury goal. The third for the Eagles came in the 63rd minute when the Berries failed to clear - Reveley dribbled through the defence and slotted the ball home for a three-goal advantage. In the 89th minute Tom Bazdaric added another, and the game ended at 4-0, a convincing result in Parramatta's favour.

Super League 2000 Leading Goal Scorers after Round 7

7 - Steve Karavatakis (Leichhardt)

6 - Johnny Ghisso (Bonnyrigg)

5 - Jimmy Bakis (St. George), Matthew Borg (Fairfield)

4 - Jim Aschner (Eastern Suburbs), Joe Bruni (Leichhardt), Steve Christoforidis (Canterbury-Marrickville), Mark Hagger (Blacktown), Nickolce Joseski (Parramatta Eagles), Peter Preston (Central Coast)

ROUND 8 PREVIEW

Round Seven of Super League proved the undoing of both the first and second placed sides with the Coasties and the Tigers falling to their opposition in weekend matches.The Saints continued on their winning way whacking five goals passed a hapless Sutherland while on Sunday the Berries were disappointing in their 4-0 loss to the Parramatta Eagles. The Wanderers enjoyed an away success at Cromer Park while a ten man Bulls outfit accounted for the Panthers and the Demons got their season going again at the expense of the Rams.

Round Eight brings together some interesting clashes, the first occurring on Saturday evening when the Demons host the Berries at Gabbie Stadium. After losing by the odd goal in seven to Bonnyrigg two starts back, Brian Brown's boys have turned things around to record a good win last week against the Rams. At home in 2000 their story isn't so hot having lost 2 and winning only once in three games, a 5-0 destruction of the Panthers in round four being their only success.The Berries on the other hand have been unique in that their form has been about as consistent as a fiddlers elbow as they beat Bonnyrigg and the Rams and followed that up with losses to the Tigers and the Eagles. They do have some injury concerns which hasn't helped matters with skipper Mathew Percy, Jose Mendes, Michael Raeburn and Simon Fedele all nursing injuries of a varying nature. Lady luck hasn't been kind to the Berries in recent weeks and with a squad struck down with injury it will be a tough assignment for them at the Gabbie.

Further west at Andrews Road Field the Panthers will be looking to put last weeks disappointing loss behind them as they host the high flying Wanderers. Three weeks ago SS was writing about Easts disappointing start to the season as they languished on the bottom of the ladder, but two weeks and two wins later it certainly is a different Wanderers outfit. Coach John Calleja has always had faith that his squad would turn things around and its amazing what a couple of wins will do for a teams confidence. Jimmy Aschner has found his scoring boots, Craig Sharpley is exerting his control in midfield and Con Anastasiadis has conceeded just one goal in two games. On the other hand Penrith have been struggling a little following their win over the Sharks two weeks back but have the experienced Martin Driene and Steve Sweeney available following successful returns in the 21s against the Bulls.This could well be a very interesting fixture but with Penrith only winning one of their past five at home it will be a tough one for the home side.

Up at Pluim Park the Coasties will be licking their wounds after a disappointing road trip to the Serbian Centre. Unbeaten after the first six rounds the Coasties have amazed many with their tough work at the back and their creativity in midfield, and of course the hardwork of 'evergreen' goalkeeper Gary Meier. Peter Ritchie was sent off last week so coach Dale Eggleton will have an interesting choice in picking a replacement from Brent Demery, Aaron Binskin and Ryan Marshall, all very capable youngsters. The Rams on the other hand will be a little disappointed at their result against the Demons. Chad Bishop again got himself on the scoresheet but their indifferent form in 2000 will be a worry for coach Brian Dene. A win a draw and a loss from their past three away starts is not all that inspiring as they face a tough road trip to Pluim Park.

On Sunday, Super Soccer's match of the day will be between two of last weeks winning sides, the Fairfield Bulls and the St. George Saints at Nineveh Field. The Bulls put on an inspired second half last week and defeated the Panthers with just ten men after their sweeper and inspirational leader George Zabetakis was sent off for two yellow cards. His suspension for this game poses a selection dilemma for 'Jinky' Joe Watson as the St George forwards have been in excellent form of late. Bakis and Petratois have been well fed by a polished Saints midfield led by Augerinos and Brennan. St George coach John Sentas told SS he is going to Nineveh Field particularly wary of the Bulls twinstrike force of Borg and Hoenselaars who are again making a challenge for the golden boot. He will be missing Archie Markopoulos but has Bill Petrovski and Nick Boliantis back, as well as finally securing the services of goalkeeper Les Bihari after protracted negotiations with his former club.

Down at Seymour Shaw the Sharks will host the White Eagles in a game which has been switched from the Saturday night to Sunday for a 7 p.m. kick-off. Sharks boss John Lavin was particularly scathing of his side after their 5-0 drubbing by the Saints last week and said the "result was a reflection of his sides endeavour, or lack there of." He made mention of the Sharks 'soft' defence and promised some chances in order to ready his side for Bonnyrigg who have scored 14 goals in three weeks. He will require one change for suspended defender Grant MacDonald after he was sent off for a deliberate handball last weekend. On the other hand Bonnyrigg coach John Turner has been happy with the way his young side has been going about its business. "Sutherland can be very tough to beat at Seymour Shaw"Turner told SS so he is going to be a little careful despite having beaten the Sharks in he corresponding game 3-1 last season. A hat-trick last week to Colin Luff will have him fired up again to continue his good form of late while Ghisso and Mancino have also been in good form.

At Melita Stadium the Parramatta Eagles will be taking on league leaders the Leichhardt Tigers in a real clash of the heavyweights. Famous for their lively battles at N.S.L. in the eighties these two sides always produce tough battles to delight the fans. Last season the Eagles beat the Tigers 2-0 at home and will be looking to repeat that again in 2000. An excellent 4-0 win against the Berries last week included a goal from 'born again' striker Nikolce Joseski which will no doubt improve his morale. The Tigers have been playing some very attractive football under new coach Les DeCelis though some question marks over their defence has been raised after last weeks slip up to the Lions. The talented Michael Galluzzo will missing from the side after his sending off at Lambert Park so DeCelis will have to make at least one chance to his outfit which accumulated 19 goals in just 7 games thus far.

The final game of round eight will be at Jensen Park where the Lions will be meeting the Dolphins, with an early kick-off at 6 p.m. Bankstown bounced back from their 2-0 loss to Easts two weeks ago defeating the Leichhardt Tigers last week which is no easy feat at Lambert Park. Lube Jancev continually reminds us that his side is a young one and a little short on experience but some good results of late see his side well in contention at this early stage. Manly on the other hand led Easts last week but faltered in the final stages to lose the game 2-1. The Dolphins have only played away from home twice this season notching up two draws, one at Melita and one at Nineveh Field.They have struggled to score goals this season notching up only nine goals in seven starts while the Lions record at home has been three starts for three draws. An unbeaten record that Manly coach Tony Pezzano will no doubt go all out to test.

Super League

1st grade table

Season not Complete	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Leichhardt Tigers	7	5	1	1	19	11	8	16
Central Coast Coasties	7	4	2	1	15	8	7	14
Blacktown City Demons	7	4	1	2	18	7	11	13
St George Saints	7	4	1	2	14	8	6	13
Bonnyrigg White Eagles	7	4	0	3	19	15	4	12
Bankstown City Lions	7	3	3	1	11	7	4	12
Canterbury Marrickville	7	4	0	3	14	15	-1	12
Parramatta Eagles	7	2	3	2	15	13	2	9
Fairfield Bulls	7	2	2	3	10	12	-2	8
Macarthur Rams	7	1	3	3	10	12	-2	6
Manly Warringah Dolphins	7	1	3	3	9	12	-3	6
Eastern Suburbs	7	2	0	5	8	13	-5	6
Sutherland Sharks	7	2	0	5	9	22	-13	6
Penrith Panthers	7	1	1	5	5	21	-16	4

21s table

Season not Complete	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Central Coast Coasties	7	5	1	1	9	5	4	16
Blacktown City Demons	7	4	2	1	14	9	5	14
Leichhardt Tigers	7	4	1	2	15	11	4	13
Penrith Panthers	7	4	0	3	15	12	3	12
Parramatta Eagles	7	4	1	2	13	9	4	13
St George Saints	7	2	3	2	11	7	4	9
Canterbury Marrickville	7	3	0	4	14	15	-1	9
Manly Warringah Dolphins	7	3	0	4	13	13	0	9
Eastern Suburbs	7	2	3	2	12	12	0	9
Macarthur Rams	7	3	0	4	8	16	-8	9
Fairfield Bulls	7	2	2	3	11	12	-1	8
Sutherland Sharks	7	2	2	3	10	16	-6	8
Bonnyrigg White Eagles	7	1	2	4	6	11	-5	5
Bankstown City Lions	7	1	1	5	10	13	-3	4

18s table

Season not Complete	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Leichhardt Tigers	7	5	2	0	21	9	12	17
Blacktown City Demons	7	5	2	0	12	4	8	17
Fairfield Bulls	7	5	0	2	13	9	4	15
Parramatta Eagles	7	5	1	1	19	5	14	16
Bonnyrigg White Eagles	7	3	2	2	11	6	5	11
Macarthur Rams	7	3	2	2	8	6	2	11
Sutherland Sharks	7	2	2	3	11	9	2	8
Central Coast Coasties	7	2	2	3	14	14	0	8
Bankstown City Lions	7	2	2	3	8	15	-7	8
Eastern Suburbs	7	2	3	2	10	13	-3	9
St George Saints	7	1	2	4	6	21	-15	5
Penrith Panthers	7	0	4	3	5	9	-4	4
Manly Warringah Dolphins	7	1	0	6	6	12	-6	3
Canterbury Marrickville	7	0	2	5	6	18	-12	2

Results

St George Saints v	Sutherland Sharks	5	0	3	0	1	1
Bonnyrigg White Eagles v	Central Coast Coasties	4	1	0	1	3	1
Macarthur Rams v	Blacktown City Demons	1	3	1	5	1	2
Penrith Panthers v	Fairfield Bulls	1	2	2	0	0	1
Manly Warringah Dolphins v	Eastern Suburbs	1	2	0	3	0	1
Leichhardt Tigers v	Bankstown City Lions	1	2	1	4	6	2
Canterbury Marrickville v	Parramatta Eagles	0	4	0	2	1	5

TIPS

How are our tipping panel faring? Any better than you?

	Bonnie Mersiades	Paul Goodwin	Mark Fowler	Greg Stock	Stuart Veitch
Central Coast v Macarthur Rams	Central Coast	Central Coast	Central Coast	Central Coast	Draw
Blacktown v Canterbury Marrickville	Canterbury M	Blacktown	Blacktown	Blacktown	Blacktown
Penrith Panthers v Eastern Suburbs	Draw	Draw	Penrith	Eastern Suburbs	Eastern Suburbs
Bankstown City v Manly Warringah	Draw	Bankstown	Bankstown	Draw	Bankstown
Fairfield v St George	St George	St George	Draw	Fairfield	Draw
Sutherland v Bonnyrigg	Bonnyrigg	Bonnyrigg	Bonnyrigg	Sutherland	Bonnyrigg
Parramatta Eagles v Leichhardt	Leichhardt	Draw	Draw	Leichhardt	Leichhardt
Last week	2	2	5	4	2
Cumulative (42)	22	18	21	24	26

Womens Super League

1st Grade

Season not Complete	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Northern NSW/HAS	1	1	0	0	9	0	9	3
Sutherland Sharks	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Gladesville Ravens	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Wollongong Wolves	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Marconi	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
NSW Inst Sport/Academy	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Central Coast Coasties	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Manly Warringah Dolphins	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
Nepean Association	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
Macarthur Rams	1	0	0	1	0	9	-9	0

U19's

Season not Complete	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Gladesville Ravens	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
Sutherland Sharks	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	3
Wollongong Wolves	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Northern NSW/HAS	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Marconi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macarthur Rams	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
Central Coast Coasties	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
Manly Warringah Dolphins	1	0	0	1	1	3	-2	0
Nepean Association	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0

Results

Home Team	Away Team	1st Gd		Gd 21	
Macarthur Rams	v Northern NSW/HAS	0	9	0	1
NSW Inst Sport/Academy	v Marconi	1	1		
Sutherland Sharks	v Manly Warringah Dolphins	1	0	3	1
Nepean Association	v Gladesville Ravens	0	1	0	3
Wollongong Wolves	v Central Coast Coasties	1	1	1	0

Womens State League

1st Grade

Seasonnot Complete	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Inter Lions	1	1	0	0	5	0	5	3
UTS	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	3
Hajduk Wanderers	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
Roselands Raptors	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Bathurst City	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Bankstown United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Suburbs Wanderers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
StGeorge Association	1	0	0	1	2	3	-1	0
Gladesville Hornsby Koalas	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
CSI Schofields	1	0	0	1	0	5	-5	0

U19's

Season not Complete	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
UTS	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
Bankstown United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
StGeorge Association	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
Roselands Raptors	1	0	0	1	2	5	-3	0
Inter Lions	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
Hajduk Wanderers	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
Gladesville Hornsby Koalas	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0
Eastern Suburbs Wanderers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CSI Schofields	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Bathurst City	1	1	0	0	5	2	3	3

Results

Home Team	Away Team	1st Gd		Gd 19	
Bathurst City	v Roselands Raptors	1	1	5	2
St George Association	v UTS	2	3	1	2
EasternSuburbsWanderers	v BankstownUnited				
InterLions	v CSI Schofields	5	0	0	1
Hajduk Wanderers	v Gladesville Hornsby Koalas	2	1	2	0

The Coaches:

John Xipolitas by Greg Stock

Berries coach John Xipolitas is a passionate man about two things in his footballing life, his beloved club side Canterbury-Marrickville and the development of the next generation of players. With an enviable record in junior development, it's been Xipolitas who has given starts to a number of talented youngsters who have since gone on to bigger and better things. Names like Peter Katholos, Mark Koussas, George Zabetakis, Jimmy Nikas, Nick Orlic and Vlado Zoric were all given an opportunity to play first grade football by the man they affectionately call 'Zippy'. It's a theory that has served 'Zippy' well and one that has become a trademark for the veteran coach.

John learnt his footballing skills on the streets of his native Cyprus and as a teenager he was signed by leading club side Olympiakos Nicosia. John excelled in the role of defensive midfielder where he quickly developed an uncanny ability to read a game. While not overly blessed with speed, his sense of timing and commitment won him praise with the national selectors and it wasn't long before John was picked to represent his country. As an attacking left fullback the Cyprus national selectors rewarded Xipolitas with the first of his five caps in 1968. Cyprus was far from being a power in European soccer but John was at the right place at the right time and was a part of the national side's first win over quality European opponents. The opposition was Switzerland and the result was a hard fought 2-1 win.

"It was a big achievement for a small country of 600,000 people" John remembers. "It was a great memory that I'll never forget."

A mere six months later and Xipolitas was again making his mark in European football. This time it was with his club side Olympiakos Nicosia in a match against one of the glamour sides of Europe, Real Madrid. The occasion was a first round European Cup tie at the legendary Santiago Bernabera Stadium. It was an occasion Xipolitas remembers with great reverence.

"I said to myself 'am I alive'? I had to pinch myself to realise we were playing against Real Madrid, one of the finest club sides in the world."

A crowd of over 70,000 watched the match and while the gallant Olympiakos side went down they did put in a hugely credible performance worthy of a better result.

Twelve months later John Xipolitas was making his first appearance for his beloved Canterbury-Marrickville. His parents had moved to Australia a few years earlier with his footballing brother Harry, and on May 1st 1970 John disembarked at Mascot airport to start a new life. At a time when Sydney football was arguably going through its most talented period, John lined up

at centre back for Canterbury-Marrickville. Week in week out, Xipolitas would match blows with the likes of Socceroos Max Tolson, Adrian Alston, Ray Baartz, Atti Abonyi and Ernie Campbell. It wasn't an easy job but he quickly adapted to Australia's intensely physical footballing style. Asked to pick his hardest opponent John pauses before naming Max Tolson.

"Tolson was by far the hardest player I ever had to face. He was tall and strong in the air and could use his elbows to great advantage."

At the end of the 1974 season John finally hung up his playing boots and took up coaching. Stints with Marrickville Olympic and then Sydney Olympic followed where Xipolitas got his first and so far only opportunity to coach at NSL level when he took over the senior team from Joe Marston midway through the 1979 season.

"I was coaching the youth team and we were 9 points ahead on the table, so when Olympic got rid of Joe from the senior team, they gave the side to me. I never really had a chance to recruit any players and we eventually finished last but I knew it was a sinking ship and tried to get a few good results to help the club."

One bright note that did come out of John's nine games in charge of Olympic was his introduction of a 17 year old teenager by the name of Mark Koussas to first grade.

This philosophy of introducing youth to senior football is a trademark of John's coaching style. Through the 80s and 90s where John has coached a variety of clubs he has always seen the great benefits of introducing youth.

"I've been associated with talents such as Vlado Zoric, Marshall Soper, Brad Maloney, Nick Orlic, Jim Nikas and Jose Mendes as juniors and it has been great to be involved with such talents who have gone onto NSL."

Whether it be as coach of Belmore Hercules, Cyprus United or Canterbury-Marrickville John's coaching style and his passion for developing young players continues. Now in his sixth season with the Berries, the club's investment in youth is paying dividends for the veteran coach.

"I love soccer and I enjoy coaching so to be with a club like Canterbury-Marrickville for over five years is fantastic. We have had a dream start to this year with some good wins and if lady luck can run with us we have the personnel to finish in the top half. We lost a few players at the end of last season and we have got some talented youngsters to build a squad."

A cleanout at Henson Park at the end of last season has reinvigorated the team and in the first few rounds of the competition the signs have been extremely positive. While stopping short of saying this year would be his last with the club he did concede he still harbours some further ambition.

"I'd love another crack at the NSL. I'd be mad if I didn't say that I'd want to, but I am more than happy to keep helping our younger players. That's my way and the way of Canterbury-Marrickville. I love the club and I love soccer and I am happy just to be involved."

Fact File

John Xipolitas
DOB: 10 April 1944, Cyprus
Current Club: Canterbury-Marrickville (coach)
Position: Defender
Clubs (as player): Olympiakos Nicosia (Cyprus), Canterbury-Marrickville
Internationals: Cyprus 5 apps
Clubs (as a coach): Marrickville Olympic, Cyprus United, Sydney Olympic (youth and 9apps at NSL), Belmore Hercules, Canterbury-Marrickville

The Captains

Mark Brennan

by Peter Smith

The rejuvenated St George club is buzzing after their impressive start to the season but captain Mark Brennan is remaining phlegmatic for now. After a long career as a professional in England, Brennan has seen too many highs and lows to get carried away just yet.

A veteran of over 350 first team appearances in his native country, Brennan is arguably the best credentialled player to appear in Super League in recent times.

The Lancashire born Brennan started out at Ipswich Town in 1982 who were then enjoying their most successful period in the club's history having been UEFA Cup winners and runners up in the League in the 1980-81 season. It was no mean feat for the teenage Brennan to be promoted to the first team by the soon to be England boss Bobby Robson, considering the wealth of talent then at the club.

The starting line up included Internationals such as Terry Butcher, John Wark, Paul Mariner and Alan Brazil. The latter two, incidentally, have had their own experience of Aussie football guesting for the Wollongong Wolves in 1988.

Having consolidated a position in central midfield alongside Wark in one of the country's best teams, it was no surprise when International recognition followed. 6 England Under 21 appearances and 5 with the Under 18s acknowledged the fact that Brennan had made it in one of the best Leagues in the world.

7 years and 168 appearances later, Brennan headed North to fellow Premier League (then still known as the 1st Division) outfit Middlesborough where he played 65 times over two years.

In 1991 Brennan made a dream move, a transfer to Manchester City - the team he supported as a youngster. Playing in the midfield alongside England Internationals Peter Reid and Steve McMahon for the Sky Blues was a career highlight, as was the winning goal that Brennan scored for the club that meant they went top of the League for the first time in three decades.

However, injury restricted Brennan's career at Maine Road and he played only 29 times over a two year period before it was again time to move on.

This time the move was a much shorter one, to nearby Oldham, where he stayed until 1997 having made 90 appearances. A highlight being the 1994 FA Cup Semi Final tie against Manchester United where Oldham went agonisingly close to a prized place at Wembley. Only a stunning last minute Mark Hughes goal forced the tie to a replay for a United team that was just beginning its current era of domination of English football.

After 15 years as a professional Brennan, now with a young family, decided to see some of the world. China ended up being the interesting, if somewhat unlikely, first stop. Playing with Winaway from Guangzhau in Southern China was to prove a fascinating experience but after 12 months and 26 appearances the Brennan clan were forced to return to England for family reasons.

However, the travel bug had bitten and it wasn't long before the desire to see sunny climes saw Brennan put out the feelers to a number of NSL clubs for the 98-99 season.

Sydney Olympic were the first to respond and after a brief trial period, Brennan was soon making his debut for the Blue and Whites before 18,000 at North Sydney Oval in that memorable first ever match for Northern Spirit.

Despite successfully slotting into the team and making 22 appearances, Olympic decided

at the end of the season that with money tight only those on existing contracts would be retained.

No sooner had Brennan been released by Olympic when St George President Bill Bariamis made contact with the experienced midfielder looking to boost the Saints squad for their campaign to get back into Super League from Division 1. The Brighton Le Sands resident fitted the mould perfectly and the Saints duly won promotion back to the Super League for the current season.

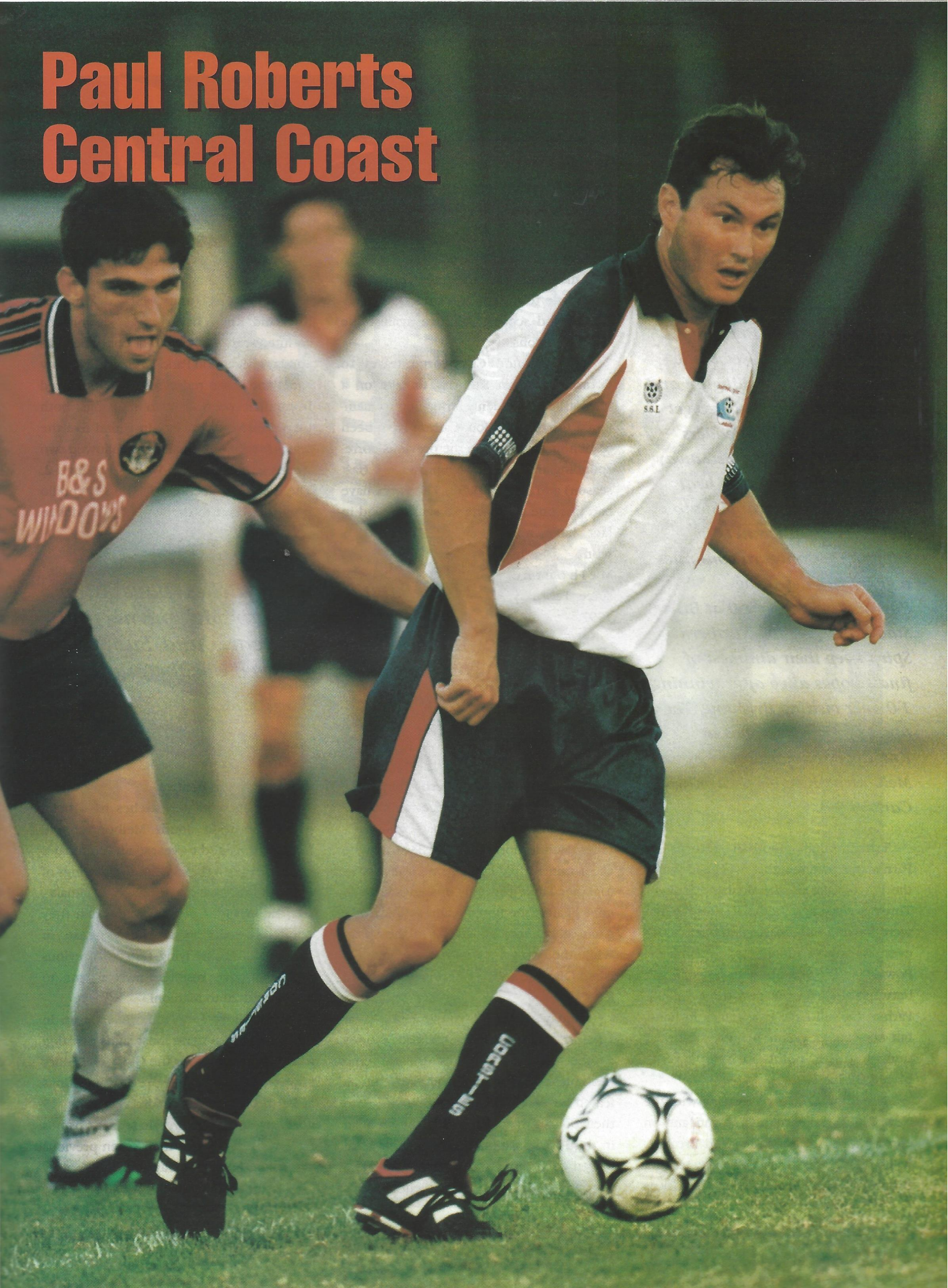
Despite being delighted to be living and playing football in Australia, the change in lifestyle hasn't all been smooth sailing to date. The youngest member of the Brennan family, 30 month old Isabella, suffers from a heart condition and as a result of this has not yet been granted permission to stay in Australia on a long term basis. While Mark remains in Australia, the rest of the Brennan family are still in the UK waiting for the wheels of bureaucracy to turn.

When the time does come to hang up the boots, and Brennan is in no hurry for that day to arrive, a career in coaching beckons. But for now, the Saints captain is looking forward to steering his team to a semi final berth and being reunited with his family in the not too distant future.

FACT FILE

MARK BRENNAN
Club: St George
Date of Birth: 14 October 1965
Place of Birth: Rossendale, Lancashire, England
Position: Midfielder
Previous Clubs: Ipswich Town, Middlesborough, Manchester City, Oldham,
Winaway (China), Sydney Olympic.
Representative Honours: England U/21s & U/18s.
English career: 352 appearances (including 19 as a substitute), ? 38 goals
Chinese career: 26 appearances ? 4 goals
Australian career: 22 appearances - 0 goals (Sydney Olympic), 14 appearances ? 3 goals (St George)
N.B. All statistics up to start of current season

Paul Roberts
Central Coast



Andrew Howe looks at NSL action.

NSL

The top of the table match-up between Wollongong and Sydney Olympic last weekend ended in a 1-1 stalemate at Brandon Park. This allowed Newcastle - who travelled to Wellington and defeated the Kingz 1-0 - to get within two points of leaders Olympic. There were also away wins to the Glory - who beat Adelaide City 2-1 - and South Melbourne, 1-0 winners at Gippsland. Canberra continues a gritty run defeating Parramatta Power 1-0 at Bruce Stadium, while the Northern Spirit keep their dimmest of finals hopes alive after winning 1-0 over visiting Brisbane. The upset of the round was at Knights Park, with the Melbourne Knights thrashing Carlton 3-0.

Friday night football returns to Parramatta Stadium this weekend when the Power take on the Brisbane Strikers. Three weeks ago both of these teams were looking like finals contenders, however hopes have plummeted for both the Power and the Strikers with just one win between them in the past three rounds. Parramatta still have two games in hand, but now lie six points behind sixth position, and five points behind seventh placed Brisbane.

The Hunter region is buzzing with the Newcastle Breakers' stunning run, and on current form the second-placed Breakers will be hot favourites to defeat the visiting Gippsland on Friday. However, history is well against the home team - in six previous meetings at Breakers Stadium, the Newcastle team have yet to win, conceding 11 and scoring just five against the dogged Falcons.

The Adelaide City Force travel to Olympic Park on Saturday to take on a Carlton team suddenly struggling to maintain a top six position. Carlton have been resounding winners in the previous corresponding fixtures in Melbourne, 4-1 (last season) and 3-1 (1997/98). The Force have had just one away win all season - and in fact have not won in Melbourne since February 1997.

A big Sydney derby is scheduled for Belmore Sports Ground on Sunday when leaders Sydney Olympic host the Northern Spirit. The Spirit will be out to prove they still have a chance of making the finals, and their recent acquisition of Nicola Berti may be all in vain if they can't string a few wins together. Three previous meetings have all gone against the home team - last season's game at Belmore ended 3-2 to the Spirit, while the two games at North Sydney finished Olympic's way 1-0 (this season) and 2-0 (last).

Sunday's other Sydney game it at Edensor Park where last-placed Sydney United are up against sister club Melbourne Knights. The Knights are undefeated for seven rounds - although due to their poor start to the season they remain in third last position. The two clubs have played each other twice already this season, and their most recent encounter - played just four weeks ago at Edensor Park - ended 1-1.

Wollongong and NSL debutantes Auckland Kingz have quickly established an intense rivalry - one that continues this Sunday at Brandon Park. 12 goals, 12 yellow cards and three red cards have emanated from their previous two meetings, both played in New Zealand. In round five the teams fought out a 3-all draw, followed two weeks later when the Wolves got up 4-2. The recent defection of Dino Mennillo from the Kingz to the Wolves only adds to the spice to this contest.

Some memorable matches have been played between South Melbourne and Marconi over the years, and Sunday's match between the two has the makings of another.

Some memorable matches have been played between South Melbourne and Marconi over the years, and Sunday's match between the two has the makings of another. If Souths are to make the finals - they lie just four points away - then they could well do so at the expense of Marconi, currently lying fifth. 45 previous meetings have resulted in 16 wins to Souths and 20 to Marconi.

Perth Glory and Canberra face up in Perth on Sunday with most signs pointing to a positive result for the Glory. The Glory have won three of four previous meetings at Perth Oval (plus one draw), scoring 15 goals to Canberra's three. In all, the Cosmos have won just one of their seven previous games - and that was way back in February 1997 at Bruce Stadium.

Fly the Flag

Parramatta Power v Brisbane Strikers

Friday 25 February

at the 'Powerhouse' (Parramatta Stadium)

Youth League 5.30pm

NSL Match 7.30pm

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The Man In The Middle

Binesh Mudaliar talked with Super League referee, Nick Asargiotis.

Super Soccer (SS): Nick, how did you start in the world of Refereeing?

Nick Arsagiotis (NA): I decided to become a referee when I came across an advertisement in the local paper and felt that it was a great opportunity to be directly involved and offer something to the game I loved. More specifically, I qualified as a Soccer Referee with Eastern Suburbs Soccer Referees Association (ESSRA) in 1977 and spent two years officiating in the local competition before joining the Australian Soccer Referees Federation (ASRF)-NSW Division. I was a dual member of the ESSRA and the ASRF-NSW.

SS: How does your CV read with respect to Refereeing qualifications, experience in matches, and higher honours?

NA: Well, I progressed through all classes of Refereeing (3,2, and 1) over a period of 9 years through written tests and practical examinations. In 1986, I obtained Class 1 Status, which is the highest qualification for a Referee in Australia. Also in 1986, I was selected as an Assistant Referee in the National League Panel. In 1992, I was nominated and accepted as a National League Referee officiating in several National League games. Since then I have been officiating in the NSW Super League and other divisions of Federation football.

SS: How many games have you actually officiated in since 1977, which was your first year in the business?

NA: Since the beginning of my career I have officiated in over 1,000 games as a Referee and more than 1,200 games as an Assistant Referee. The games range from local competition through to the National Soccer League.

SS: What do you consider the highlights of your career?

NA: I have been fortunate enough to have experienced all levels of soccer. I thoroughly enjoyed many friendly internationals and also the many finals in all sorts of Divisions. However, the highlight of my career was my appointment as an Assistant Referee in the Bicentennial Gold Cup Tournament game between Australia and Argentina on July 14, 1988. The game was played at the Sydney Football Stadium in front of 28,000 spectators and Australia won the match 4-1!

SS: Are there any low points during your long career?

NA: The lowest point of my career was the year that I was not accepted in the National League panel of Referees. I felt I had the experience, the physical fitness (at 43 years of age), and still had a lot to offer the game. I probably also regret the fact that I didn't start Refereeing earlier in my life.

SS: Do you have any goals or ambitions to cap off a fantastic career?

NA: I believe that I have fulfilled all my Refereeing ambitions. I now set my goals week-to-week, which are to have a good and well-controlled game.

SS: There are a lot of controversial issues in the world of Sports Refereeing and Umpiring. Could you give us your thoughts on some of the more interesting issues?

NA: There are a few.

First there's the pressure on referees. Today's technology through television places a lot of pressure on Referees and Umpires in every sport. Spectators and officials make "Referees Trial by TV" their favourite pastime and it is rather pleasing to see that the Referees are correct in almost every decision they make in a split second.

Then there's the pressure by spectators. The importance of the game and big crowds does add to the pressure on any Referee. However, a good and experienced Referee blocks his or her ears and does not give in to any outside pressure and remains cool, calm and collected.

We also have to face manhandling at times. The manhandling and abuse of Referees by spectators, officials, and players is inexcusable. A Referee and his or her Assistants are the only neutral people on the field. They never abuse or manhandle any of the players and should never be on the receiving end of such abuse. After all, they are only humans and they may make the odd mistake.

Finally, there is the presence of the referee. I believe that a Referee or Umpire is there to apply the Laws and to control the game. Although very much involved and influential, he or she should never be the centre of attention. The spectacle is the game and the players. The referee must remain inconspicuous as possible. Nothing like AFL Umpires who run around the field in tight shorts bouncing the ball every minute of the game!

SS: It's been a pleasure, Nick.

NA: Thank you.

Nick Asargiotis (centre of photo) as Assistant Referee in the Australia v Argentina match, Sydney Football Stadium, 1988, with Socceroo captain, Charlie Yankos (left), Garry Power (match referee) and Daniel Batistuta of Argentina. Australia won, 4-1!

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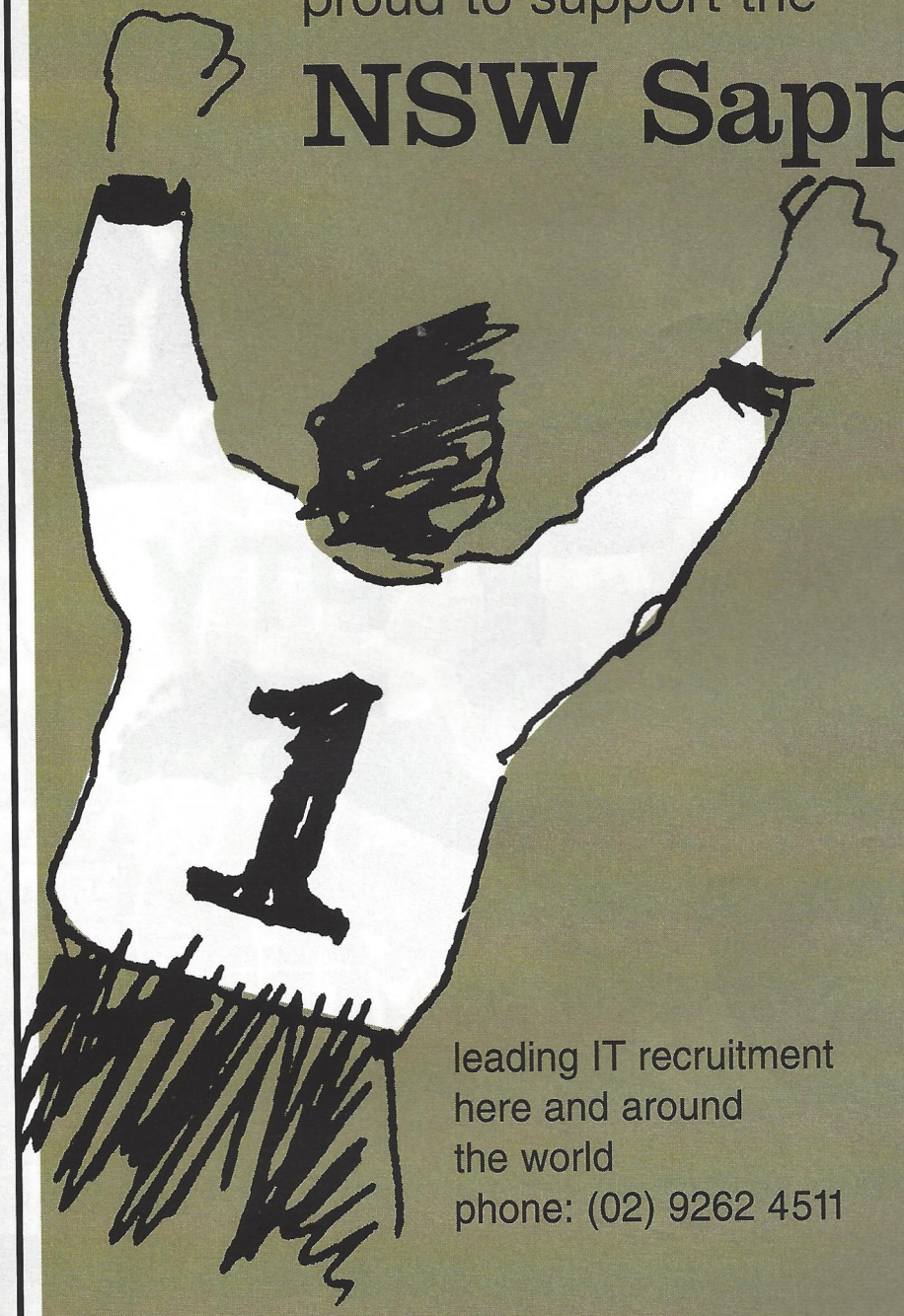

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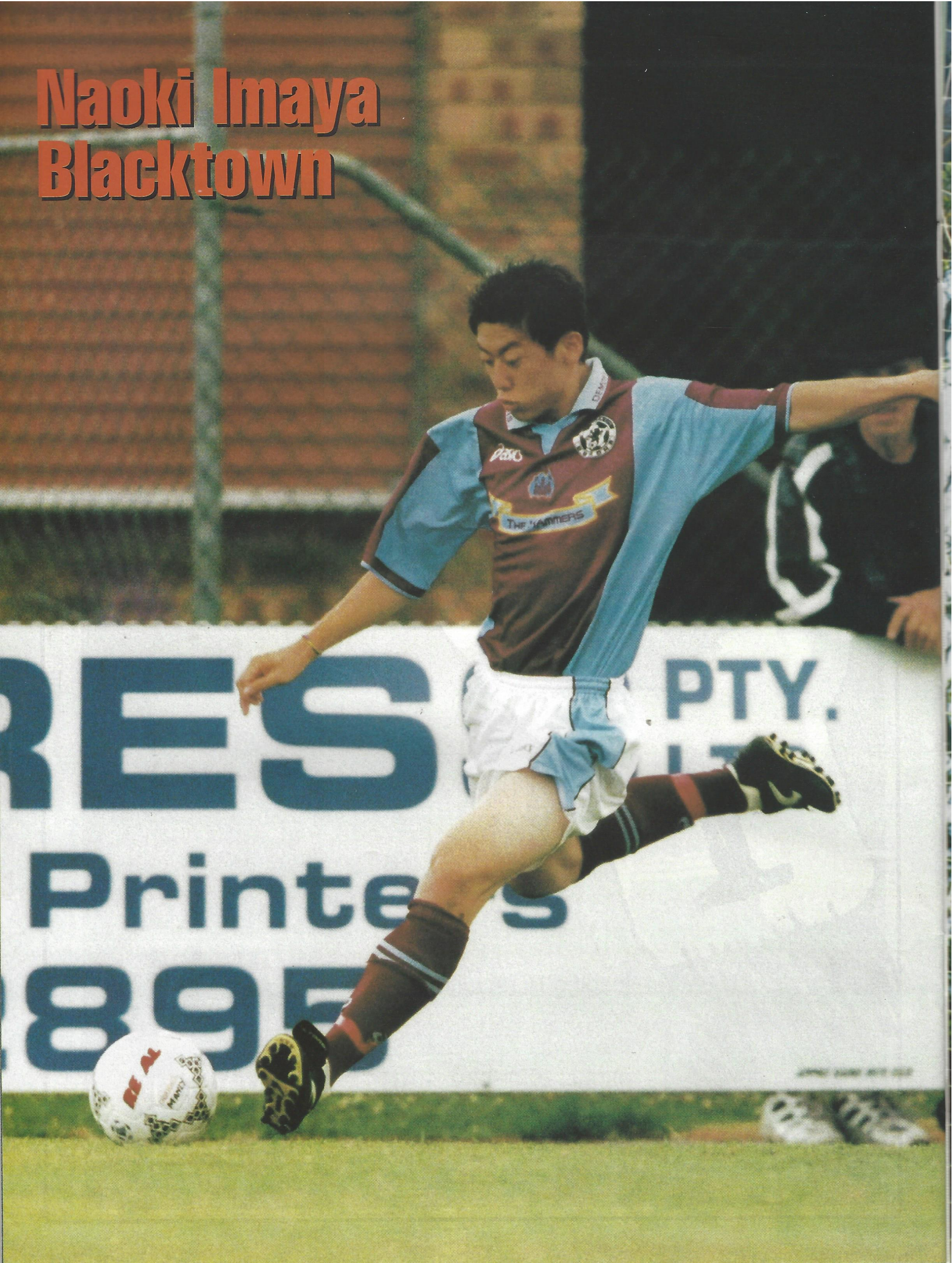

Women's Super League teams

DID YOU KNOW?

with Greg Stock

Super Soccer presents a regular section on Did You Know? which gives Super Soccer readers a chance to ask our resident expert, Greg Stock, anything they like about soccer in New South Wales. Greg is an enthusiastic historian of the local game and, along with colleagues Andrew Howe and Thomas Esamie, helps to maintain the statistical section of the Oz Soccer web site (http://ozsoccer.thehub.com .au).

Send your questions to:
Did you know?
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If you stump him, we'll give you a complimentary double pass to the Super League Grand Final in July! Please include your name and address with your question.

In our series on looking at rules of the game, this week, we look at the Offside rule - another one for great debate!

(Please note that the use of "he" or "him" does not exclude the female gender).

Offside Position

It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position.

As player is in an offside position if:

- he is in his own half of the field or play OR
- he is level with the second last opponent OR
- he is level with the last two opponents.

Offence

A player in an offside position is only penalised if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by:

- interfering with play OR
- interfering with an opponent OR
- gaining an advantage by being in that position.

No Offence

There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick OR
- a throw-in OR
- a corner kick.

A READER'S STORY

A Father and Missionary of Soccer

In many cases a coach of any sporting team can be considered a father figure amongst the players. They advise, listen, teach and sometimes even preach to their charges while preparing them for the challenges that lie ahead.

Kosciuszko Soccer Club, who compete in the NSW State League Division 5 Competition, has the ultimate father at its helm. Their coach, Richard Gamanski, typifies the fatherhood stature within a Club.

Gamanski is actually a Catholic Priest and due to his immense passion for the round ball game, steps away from the altar to take up his post as a coach. A priest for nearly 30 years, Father Richard, as he is mostly referred to, has been involved with soccer for even longer. "I began playing soccer in my native Poland over 45 years ago," he said.

"During my playing days, I played for a number of clubs in Poland, before arriving in Australia in the late 1960s. In 1970 I played for Polonia Sydney (NSW State League Division 1) before moving to Melbourne where I played out my career with Polonia Melbourne (State League Division 1) between 1971 to 1974," he added.

Since retiring as a player, Father Richard has continued being active taking up various coaching roles. "I was associated with the Polish National Team during the 1974 and 1978 World Cup campaigns in Germany and Argentina", he said.

"I also assisted at a number of 1st division clubs in Poland, Argentina and Croatia plus English premier league giants Arsenal and Chelsea amongst others". In 1998 he attended a coaching course in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

His success has also spilled over into Australia where he coached Polonia Melbourne's senior and junior teams. "In 1975 and 1976, we were Victoria's number one under 15s and 16s teams", Father Richard said.

Father Richard has not only focussed his knowledge on local club players while in Australia. "Former Socceroo stars Charlie Yankos and Alan Davidson both played in my teams during their early days", he explained.

For the past three years, Father Richard has been back in Sydney coaching the Kosciuszko Soccer Club at Plumpton in Sydney's West. "I am back where I started in Australia, although the club has changed somewhat."

After so many years in soccer, Father Richard explained enjoyment motivates him.

"It is the best sport and I think I can still help, I still enjoy it". And there are still some goals left, he added, "To produce many good players and good people".

At Kosciuszko, Father Richard's professional attitude has been instrumental in the clubs progression. Manager Adam Ostrowski explains that Father Richard is an ideal ingredient for success. "Father Richard's experience has certainly given the club a much needed lift. His 'never give up' comment to the players typifies the type of person he is".

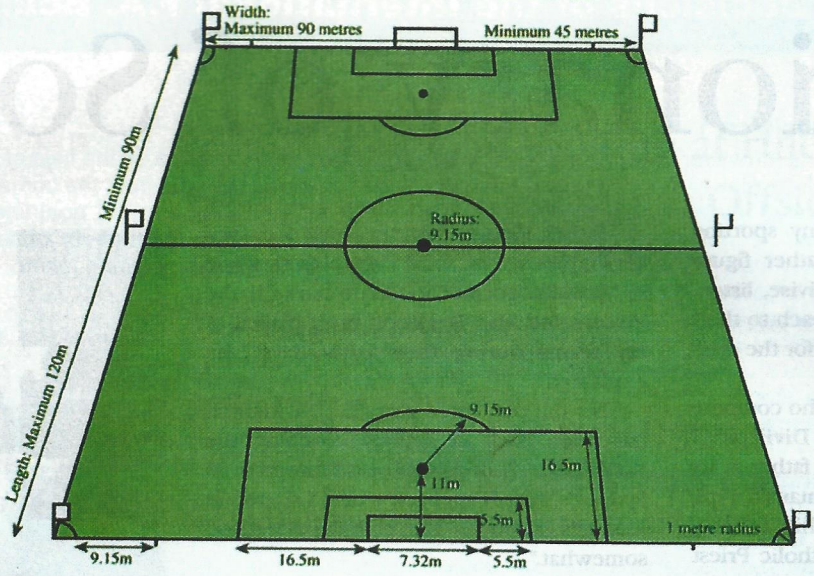
For now, Kosciuszko aim to carry on the Polonia Sydney tradition, which unfortunately dissolved in 1993 after over 40 years. Kosciuszko, formed in 1996, have recommenced its climb in the NSW State League Division 5 competition.

It will be no easy road to emulate some of the feats achieved by Polonia, as Kosciuszko prepare its quest towards the summit of NSW soccer. But a grand final appearance last year is definitely a step in the right direction.

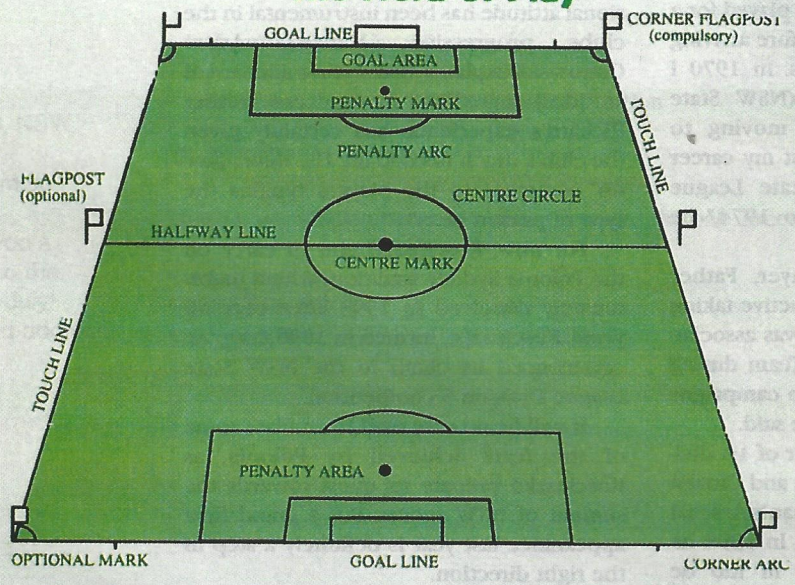
For the time being, Father Richard is busy preparing Kosciuszko for the upcoming annual four team pre-season tournament hosted by the club at Chopin Park on 27 February. This will be the last hit out before the season proper commences the following week.

Robert Szoszkiewicz

Metric Measurements



The Field of Play



Super Soccer Quiz

Try out your general football knowledge with our first Super Soccer quiz!

It's worth 15 points and to get a chance to win a Socceroo cap, just send your entry to:

Super Soccer Quiz
NSWSF
PO Box 6024
Blacktown BC NSW 2148

1. Who was last year's Super League first grade premiers?
2. Who were the minor premiers and champions of the 1999 Women's National Soccer League?
3. Which two teams contested the 1999 Division 1 Grand Final?
4. Who is the coach of Bonnyrigg's first grade team?
5. Name the sponsor of the youth competitions.
6. Which club was the last club to win the Johnny Walker Cup?
7. How many times has Sydney Olympic won the national soccer league?
8. How many Australians play for West Ham United?
9. Who was the top goal scorer in the 1990 World Cup?
10. Against which country did Ronaldo make his international debut?
11. Name the most recent captains of the Under 17, Under 20, Under 23, Socceroos and Matildas teams? (worth 5 points)

Name: .....

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P.O. Box 6024
Blacktown BC, NSW 2148
Phone: (02) 9629 1800
Fax: (02) 9629 3770
E-mail: info@soccernsw.com.au
http://www.soccernsw.com.au

Editor
Bonita Mersiades

Staff Writer
Binesh Mudaliar

Contributors
Paul Goodwin, Mark Fowler,
Greg Stock, Peter Smith,
Tony Dunn, Stuart Veitch
David Hull, Andrew Howe
Fred Legget, Patrick Galloway

Art Direction & Production
Ian Lenton - 9281 8885

Advertising Inquiries
NSW Soccer Federation
(02) 9629 1800

Photography
Nick Vasic - 0412 356 656

Distribution
Wrapaway - Phone: (02) 9550 1622

Printing
Rotary Offset Press

Publisher
Larry Jamieson
Jamieson Publishing
PO Box 197
Cronulla NSW 2230
Phone: (02) 9544 1501
Fax: (02) 9544 1502

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Editorial

Next week - 4-5 March - sees the so-called 'winter' competition kick-off, with Divisions 1-5, the Pepsi Super Youth League, the Pepsi Youth Leagues, the Pepsi Super Cadet League and Pepsi Cadet League all starting their 2000 season. (Women's Super League and Women's State League commenced last weekend).

All competition is starting a little earlier this year to be finished in time for the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

While we all know the Olympics is a huge undertaking, it's worthwhile thinking about just how large an operation a weekly sporting competition is also - and while the good people of SOCOG will be able finally to relax come October, for those involved in a weekly sporting competition, it's a relentless program.

With all teams playing from Super League through to Cadet League, there are 33 separate competitions running each weekend playing around 245 games.

This involves over 125 clubs, over 550 teams and thousands of players.

That doesn't count the parents, partners or friends who watch the games; the many volunteers who keep clubs going; the more than 1,000 people involved in coaching or managing a team, or who wash the playing strip or staff the canteen.

At NSWSF, a team of just six people schedule matches, appoint referees and ensure that all parties are advised of any changes during the week; and two people are currently involved in recording 245 separate results, calculating 33 tables, updating the web site, releasing information to the media, and preparing all the results and tables data for 'Super Soccer' which goes to print every Monday morning (to be included in "Match Facts").

Whatever level of football you wish to watch, there's plenty going on throughout the fields of New South Wales - so you've got no excuse not to enjoy your football!

Bonnie Mersiades

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GAMES IN NSW THIS WEEK At a glance

Saturday 26 February
Central Coast v Macarthur Rams, Pluim Park, 7.00pm, 5.00pm, 3.00pm
Blacktown v Canterbury Marrickville, Gabbie Stadium, 7.00pm, 5.00pm, 3.00pm
Penrith Panthers v Eastern Suburbs, Andrews Road Field, 7.00pm, 5.00pm, 3.00pm
Bankstown City v Manly Warringah, Jensen Park, 6.00pm (1st), 4.00pm (21s)

Sunday 27 February
Bankstown City v Manly Warringah, Jensen Park, 6.00pm (18s)
Fairfield v St George, Nineveh Field, 7.00pm, 5.00pm, 3.00pm
Sutherland Sharks v Bonnyrigg, Seymour Shaw Park, 7.00pm, 5.00pm, 3.00pm
Parramatta Eagles v Leichhardt, Melita Stadium, 7.00pm, 5.00pm, 3.00pm

Super League
Sat 4-Mar
Serbian Centre - 7:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 3:00 pm
Bonnyrigg White Eagles v Fairfield Bulls
Lynwood Park - 7:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 3:00 pm
Macarthur Rams v Sutherland Sharks

Sun 5-Mar
St George Stadium - 5:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 1:00 pm
St George Saints v Eastern Suburbs
Henson Park - 5:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 1:00 pm
Canterbury Marrickville v Central Coast Coasties
Melita Stadium - 5:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 1:00 pm
Parramatta Eagles v Blacktown City Demons
Andrews Road Field - 5:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 1:00 pm
Penrith Panthers v Bankstown City Lions
Lambert Park - 5:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 1:00 pm
Leichhardt Tigers v Manly Warringah Dolphins

Super League 2000 admission prices

Adult: $10
Concession: $5
16 & under: $2

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